

NEW
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
SCOTLAND.

PEEBLES-SHIRE.

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THE
STATISTICAL ACCOUNT
OF
PEEBLES-SHIRE.

BY
THE MINISTERS OF THE RESPECTIVE PARISHES,

UNDER THE SUPERINTENDENCE OF
A COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIETY FOR THE BENEFIT OF
THE SONS AND DAUGHTERS OF THE CLERGY.

WILLIAM BLACKWOOD AND SONS, EDINBURGH,
AND 22, PALL MALL, LONDON.

MDCCCXII.

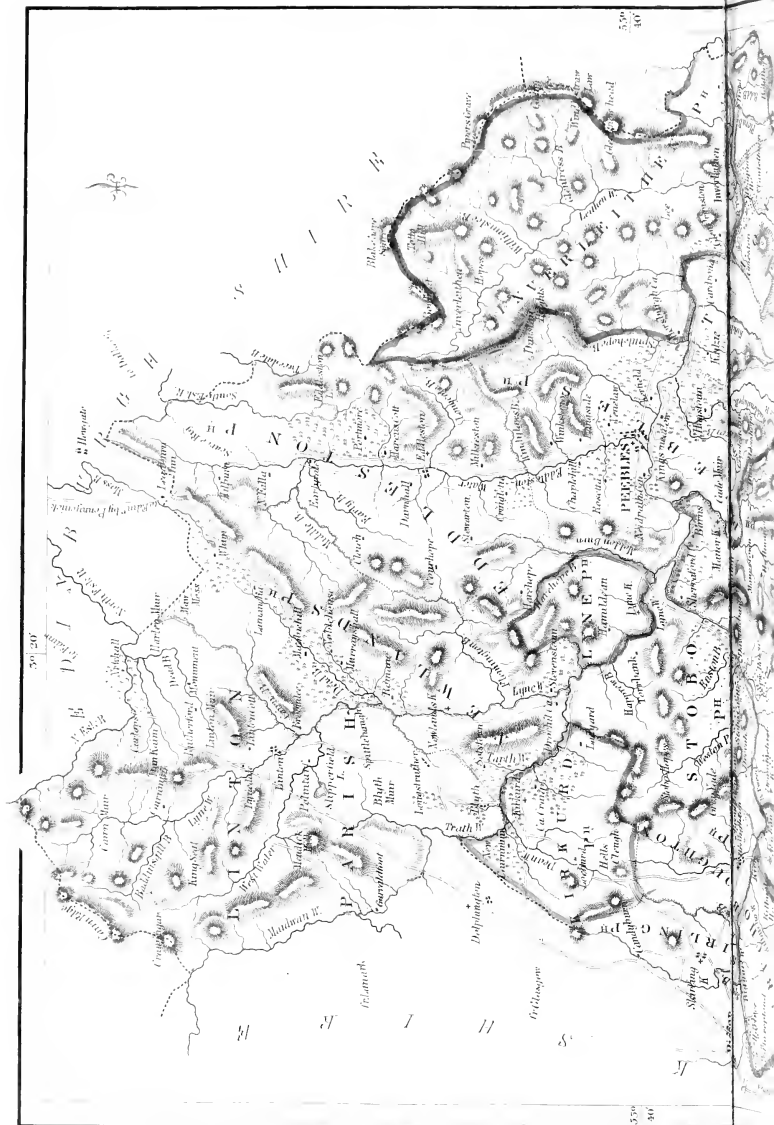
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STUBBINS, ELLIS

British Miles



20' Longitude West from Greenwich

PARISH OF PEEBLES.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN ELLIOT, A. M. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—IN the grant made by David II. of some of the Burgh mails, the name is spelled *Peblys*: but the ordinary spelling in the old records is *Peblis* and *Pebblis*. In the oldest record belonging to the Presbytery, extending from 1596 to 1600, the name is almost uniformly written as at present, *Peebles*. In the next oldest record, from 1603 to 1624, it is generally spelled *Peibles*. The author of *Caledonia*, after an indifferent sarcasm against Dr Dalgliesh in the former Account, for deriving the name from “the pebbles with which the soil abounds,” deduces it from the Celtic word *Pebyll*, corresponding with the Saxon word *Shiels*, and signifying moveable dwellings or temporary encampments. The parish is bounded on the south by Manor and Yarrow; on the west, by Lyne, Stobo, and Manor; south-east, by Yarrow and Traquair; east, by Innerleithen; and north, by Eddlestone. From east to west it extends about six miles, and from north to south about ten; but the most southern part, stretching three or four miles into Selkirkshire, is uninhabited. The burgh may be considered as the centre of the parish; and none of the inhabitants are above $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from the parish church. The parish is calculated by the author of the “Companion to the Map of Tweeddale” to contain 18,210 acres; which calculation was submitted to the Court of Teinds in 1821, and sustained.

Topographical Appearances.—The general aspect of the parish is hilly, except along the banks of the Eddlestone water and the Tweed, on the latter of which is a vale of considerable size, commencing at Peebles, and extending to the extremity of the parish towards the east. None of the hills rise to a great height, as in some of the neighbouring parishes. They are, for the most part, grassy, except those towards the south, which are covered with heather, and abound in grouse.

Meteorology.—From the land being almost all of a light gravelly soil, from the absence of stagnant water or marshy ground, and from the elevated situation of the parish, the air is healthy, though keen. The medium height of the barometer at Peebles, 535 feet above the sea, is 29.2 in summer, and 29 in winter. The medium depth of rain yearly, on an average of seven years, is about 26.75 inches. The prevailing wind is the south-west, which blows at least nine months in the year. The eastern fogs, which overspread the Lothians, scarcely ever reach Peebles.

Hydrography.—The Tweed runs here a course of about $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles, dividing the parish nearly into two equal parts. The whole course of this beautiful and far-famed river, the fourth in magnitude in Scotland, is about 90 miles, with a fall of 1500 feet; and it is calculated to drain about 1870 square miles of country. Though at Peebles it has run only about one-third of its course, it has fallen no less than 1000 feet, *i. e.* $33\frac{1}{3}$ feet per mile; and in the remainder of its course to Berwick, about 60 miles, it falls 500 feet, or $8\frac{1}{2}$ feet per mile.* On entering the parish of Peebles, and onwards, the Tweed is confined within narrow banks; but immediately below the bridge, a beautiful and extensive vale opens, resembling more an Italian than a Scottish landscape. On reaching the parish of Peebles, it receives the Lyne water; which, in the opinion of some writers, is entitled to be regarded as “the head of Tweed,” and not a tributary. The Lyne, however, has nothing of the character of a great river, and does not contain a sixth part of the waters of the Tweed. A mile lower down, the Tweed receives the Manor water from the south, the Eddlestone water at Peebles, and the Haystone burn two miles farther down. All these streams abound in trout; and anglers may be seen on their banks almost all the year. The quantity of trout caught from April to October is immense, and far exceeds belief. Salmon are sometimes taken in considerable numbers, but, owing to the distance from the sea, they are much inferior in quality to those caught near the mouth of the river. The system of drainage has proved unfavourable to the run of salmon, for the heaviest rains are soon carried off, and a flood seldom lasts more than a few hours; whereas

* The Rhone at Geneva is only 1154 feet above the level of the Mediterranean, according to Sir G. Shuckburgh, and yet the rapidity of its course seems infinitely greater than that of the Tweed. This can be accounted for, only by the fact, that “the arrowy Rhone,” with its great mass of water, runs almost in a straight line, whereas the Tweed’s current is impeded by innumerable windings, which add to the beauties of this pastoral river.

formerly, a heavy rain required some days to run off; and the river being thus kept full, the fish could easily ascend.

Minerals.—Though the upper part of the country abounds in minerals, the parish of Peebles can boast of very few. Sandstone is unknown, and there has been no appearance of coal. A quarry of transition limestone, indeed, was opened many years ago about two miles from Peebles, on the Edinburgh road; but the lime was of so coarse a quality, and coals were so expensive, that the working of it was soon abandoned, and it has never since been resumed. Greywacke abounds in all the hills; and as it is frequently of a fine texture when dressed, the houses built of it have a very handsome appearance. The strata of the low grounds are generally covered with gravel and sand.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

There is reason to believe that Peebles contained a considerable number of inhabitants at a very early period. The fertile valleys on both sides of the Tweed would early invite settlers, and its secluded situation would afford them protection against hostile invasion. The wild mountains and thick forest of Ettrick protected the inhabitants against inroads from the south and east, and an equal barrier was opposed against invasion from the Lothians. It was only when the woods began to be cleared that the inhabitants at length took part in the disputed successions to the throne, or became exposed to the hostile inroads of the English.

Historical Notices.—The earliest notices of Peebles give intimation of some advancement in agriculture and civilization. The Inquisitio of David Earl of Cumberland, afterwards king David I. in 1116, found that there had belonged (it does not state how long) to the See of Glasgow, “una carrucata (ploughgate,) terræ et ecclesia;”* and shortly after, we find mention made of a mill and brewery. It is seldom that a poor or thinly inhabited district can support extensive religious establishments; Peebles must therefore have attained to considerable eminence. Accordingly, we find that Ingelram Newbigging, Rector of Peebles, and Archdeacon of Glasgow, after having been made Chancellor of the kingdom by King David in 1151, was appointed Bishop of Glasgow in 1164. When Rector of Peebles, he vigorously defended the independence of the Scottish church against the claim of superiority set up by Roger, Archbishop of York, in a provincial council held at Norham, and afterwards at Rome, where he recommended himself so much to the

* Gibson's Glasgow, p. 263.

favour of Pope Alexander the Third, that he was consecrated by him Bishop of Glasgow, notwithstanding the opposition made by the agents of the Archbishop of York.*

From a very early period, Peebles was the favourite residence of many of the Scottish kings, and particularly of Alexander III. who seems to have been much attached to it, and who gave a substantial proof of his munificence by building and endowing the Cross Kirk, and a monastery for Red Friars. The place was chosen from its vicinity to the extensive forests, in which these princes might enjoy the amusements of the chase. During the usurpation of Edward I. "the baillyf, several burgesses, and tote la comunate de Pebles," swore fealty to him at Berwick in 1296. In 1304, the same king granted to Aymer de Valence "burgum nostrum de Pebbles cum molendinis." It does not appear, however, to have been created a Royal Burgh till the year 1367, when David II. granted it a charter, which was confirmed by charters from James II., James IV., and James VI. in 1621. The charter granted by David II. was probably given in reward for the loyalty of the inhabitants in having sent two representatives to the Scottish Parliament in 1357, to provide a ransom for their sovereign, who had been taken prisoner ten years before by the English at Neville's Cross. The town not being a royal burgh, must have been distinguished for its wealth and influence; otherwise it had not been entitled to join with sixteen of the principal towns in Scotland in sending representatives to Parliament.

The charter of James VI. confirming former grants and privileges, affords a strong proof of the liberality of former monarchs, and of the extensive possessions belonging to the burgh. "Our royal muir of Cademuir, Hamildean, Venlaw, Glentras, the Castle-hill, with the mill-granary, called the Ruid Mill, and Wauk Mill, built upon the side of the said Castle-hill, and with the mill-granary, called the Auld mill, upon the water of Peebles, the mill and granary of Innerleithen," † attest the wealth of the burgh in former times. Cademuir was afterwards divided into "*soums*" by the burgesses, and these *soums* are now sold like any other transferable property. The land is let as a sheep-farm, and the *soum*-holders receive rent according to the number of their shares. Of all the rest of the extensive possessions, little else now remains than the farm of Shielgreen, acquired by purchase, and a few fields near the town. "Large tracts of land," says the author of the Agri-

* Gibson's History of Glasgow, p. 11.

† Charter of James VI.

cultural Survey of Peebles-shire, “extending on the hills for six or seven miles downward to Gatehope burn, would seem to have been granted to Peebles in property, or in right of pasturage, the rights to which are now lost, from encroachment, or through dereliction.”* In 1712, in a petition to the presbytery against the induction of the presentee to the church by the magistrates, chiefly on account of his youth, they lay much stress on their paying *one-third* of the stipend. At present the stipend paid by the burgh is, on an average, only L.16 a-year. †

In 1545, when the Earl of Hertford, afterwards Protector Somerset, in revenge for the defeat which the English had sustained the year before under Lord Evers, from the Scots, commanded by the Earl of Angus, destroyed the towns of Kelso and Melrose, with their magnificent abbeys,—Peebles shared the same fate, and was reduced to ashes. The churches, greatly inferior to those two splendid edifices, seem to have escaped the vengeance of the invaders and were spared. In 1604, the town suffered severely from an accidental fire. The houses being thatched, the destruction of property was very great. In the civil war, Cromwell’s troops occupied Peebles during the siege of Neidpath Castle, and, from want of accommodation, they stabled their horses in St. Andrew’s Church, the principal place of worship in the parish. From there being no record or tradition of excesses committed, it is probable that the severe discipline of the Protector secured the inhabitants against any outrage of the soldiers. “The inhabitants of this district,” says Pennecuik, “are of so loyal and peaceable dispositions, that they have seldom or never appeared in arms against their lawful sovereign; nor were there amongst that great number twelve persons from Tweeddale at the insurrection of Rullion-green or Bothwell Bridge. Of their loyalty they gave sufficient testimony at the fight of Philiphaugh, where several of them were killed by David Leslie’s army, and others, the most eminent of their gentry, taken prisoners.” In the Rebellions of 1715 and 1745, the inhabitants of Peebles remained unconcerned spectators of the struggle; and, though there were Jacobite families in the district, they had fortunately the prudence to take no part in the unhappy conflict.

But though the inhabitants of Tweeddale have been distinguish-

* Findlater’s Survey, p. 10.

† Mr John Hay, the *youthful* presentee, after five years’ litigation before the superior courts, overcame the objections made against him on the ground of his youth, and was an able and efficient minister till 1760.

ed for their peaceful habits,—in seasons of danger and alarm they rivalled their border brethren of Selkirk and Roxburgh-shires in patriotic devotedness to the service of their country. When the war broke out after the treaty of Amiens, and the country was threatened with foreign invasion, an additional levy of volunteers and yeomanry was ordered, and the loyal inhabitants of Peebles, considering the exigencies of the times, mustered no less than 682 effective officers and men as an infantry corps, and two troops of cavalry, making a total of 820 soldiers,—besides furnishing their *quota* to the militia. This force, out of a population of 8800, exceeded the muster made by any other county in Scotland, according to the number of its inhabitants; and in that spirit-stirring period, a finer body of men could not be found in Britain, nor one more prepared to repel foreign invasion, or “nobly die the second glorious part,” than the hardy and patriotic sons of Tweeddale. In Pennecuik’s time the number of militia was 266 foot, and 29 horse.

Ecclesiastical History.—At what period, Peebles was added to the diocese of Glasgow, it is difficult to ascertain. That it had belonged to it previous to the inquisition of David in 1116, we have already seen. When that prince refounded the see of Glasgow, he seems to have conferred on the bishops of Glasgow the whole of the ecclesiastical rights, while he retained the demesne of Peebles.

The church of St Andrew, for many ages the parish church, seems to have been built on the ruins of the old one in the year 1195, as it was consecrated by Bishop Joceline, who, in 1174, succeeded Ingelram, already mentioned. In 1260, the Conventual Church of the Holy Cross was built by Alexander III. in honour of St. Nicholas, who was supposed to have suffered martyrdom in the third century. This church of the Holy Cross was one of the four in Scotland called ministries, and their governor was styled minister.† It was founded for Red or Trinity friars, seventy in number; and was richly endowed, not only by its royal founder, but by many princely donations, particularly from the noble and powerful family of Frazer, who, during the twelfth and thirteenth centuries, possessed a great part of Tweeddale. The strath of the Tweed, from its source to the brook which forms the eastern boundary of

* For a full account of the erection and endowment of this church, the reader is referred to the original record found in St. John’s College, Cambridge, and inserted in Pennecuik’s Description of Tweeddale, p. 33.

† Connell on Tithes.

the parish of Peebles, separating it from Innerleithen, was the property of that family,—extending to about thirty miles.

Some branches of the family of Frazer acquired extensive property in East-Lothian, and we learn from Crawford's *Lives of the Officers of State*, that a branch of that family was proprietor of the lands of Forton, in the parish of Athelstaneford. Frazer of Forton seems to have given from his lands of East Forton ten bolls of wheat and ten bolls of barley, to the monks of the Cross Church of Peebles; and that quantity of grain continued to be delivered to the minister of the Holy Cross Church of Peebles after the Reformation, when monastic institutions were abolished in Scotland. That donation of grain from the lands of Forton had been reckoned so valuable, that it was included in the deed of entail of the March estate, and has descended to the Earl of Wemyss and March, the heir of entail.

In 1218, Patrick, the fifth Earl of Dunbar, founded a monastery of Red friars at Dunbar; and Christian Bruce, wife of Patrick, the seventh Earl of Dunbar, and only daughter of Robert the Bruce, competitor with Baliol for the throne of Scotland, built a noble mansion for the Red friars at Dunbar. That establishment was suppressed at Dunbar sometime before the Reformation; and in the inventory of the late Duke of Queensberry's papers, is the following extract: "Gift by King James the Fifth, under the Great Seal, to the Holy Cross Church of Peebles, of a house in Dunbar built by Christian Bruce, Countess of Dunbar, and given by her to the brethren of the order of the Holy Trinity, formerly at Dunbar, then translated to Peebles, dated 5th July 1529."

It appears from other documents, that sundry houses in the West Port of Edinburgh, and certain lands in the parish of Cramond, had been gifted to the Cross Church of Peebles. All the above sources of income appear to have been conferred on William Earl of March, second son of the Duke of Queensberry, at the periods of the Revolution of 1688, and of the Union in 1707, together with fifty acres of rich glebe land lying in the vicinity of the church,—only four acres being reserved for the minister of the parish of Peebles.

Dr Pennecuik mentions *three* churches and *three* old steeples. The *third* church was the chapel attached to the castle, which in former times stood on the mound called the Castle-hill, on which the present church is built. The chapel stood twenty or thirty yards to the east of the present church, and occupied the middle

of the High Street. It was a long narrow Gothic building, but when or by whom built is unknown. It seems not to have belonged to the see of Glasgow, but, according to the Rev. James Morton, author of the *Monastic Annals of Teviotdale*, King William confirmed to the monks of Kelso the possession of the chapel of the castle of Peebles, with a ploughgate belonging to it, and 10s. a-year, granted by his grandfather, King David, out of the revenues of the burgh, to found a chapel in which to say mass for the soul of his son Earl Henry.* Immediately to the west of this chapel ran the town wall; and a *port* opened to a deep ditch or pass, which might be considered a kind of *fosse*, to prevent an entrance from the bridge. The chapel continued for many years to be the place of the meeting of presbytery and kirk-session, and frequently for the celebration of marriages, till the building of the present church was begun, when it was pulled down. Of the castle and its chapel, not a vestige now remains.

A hospitium dedicated to St Leonard for the support of aged and infirm persons, and for temporary relief to strangers, stood at the eastern extremity of the parish, on the farm of Eshiels, part of the Hayston estate. No part of it now remains. At the Reformation, the church of the Holy Cross became the parish church; but from the numerous meetings of the heritors for repairs, as recorded in the session-books, it seems for many years to have been in very bad order. It was finally abandoned in 1784, when the present church was opened for public worship. Of St Andrew's church little now remains except the tower. It stands in the midst of a spacious burying-ground, which, though of great antiquity, contains no monuments of any great interest. The Cross church, when deserted, by being used as a quarry, was fast disappearing, when a public-spirited citizen, the late Mr John Turnbull, purchased it from the magistrates, and stopped the work of desecration. The late Sir John Hay, whose family vault it contained, afterwards purchased it, and, planting a considerable piece of ground around it, enclosed the whole with a wall. The cross, which stood on that part of the High Street which still bears its name, was also doomed to destruction, and was sold for building materials. It was a work of great antiquity, having been erected by one of the Frazers of Neidpath Castle before the time of Robert the Bruce, and bears the arms of the Frazers. After the pedestal had been

* Morton's *Monastic Remains*.

removed, and used in the ignoble work for which it was sold, the shaft was purchased, at about five times the price which had been paid for the whole, by the present Sir John Hay, and was by him transported to his seat of King's Meadows, where it ornaments the pleasure-ground of the only descendant of the Frazers now in Tweeddale.

Parochial Registers.—The oldest session record is entitled “a Register of the Kirke at Peebles, containing the discipline of the sessione by the elderis, and diligence of the deacones for the poore, there begun in the year 1657. Mr John Hay, minister.”—The session consisted of no less than eight elders and six deacons for the burgh, and seven elders and six deacons for the landward part of the parish. The records appear to have been kept with great accuracy till 1760, from which time till 1808 they are written on detached pieces of paper, and, like the Sibylline leaves, they have been *ludibria ventis*, as many of them are irrecoverably lost. The presbytery and synod records extend back as far as 1596, and are in a state of good preservation. The oldest register of baptisms begins in 1622, and ends in 1659; that of funerals begins in 1660.

Antiquities.—On the top of the hill of Cademuir may be traced the remains of a Roman camp, and on Janet's Brae, about half a mile east from Peebles, the remains of two camps are still visible. The castle of Neidpath has been so often described of late that a very short notice of it may suffice. It is a large square building, more distinguished for massive strength than architectural beauty. It was built and long possessed by the powerful family of Frazer, and, by the marriage of the heiress of that house, passed, along with the hereditary sheriffship of the county, into the family of the Hays of Gifford, the ancestor of the present Marquis of Tweeddale. In 1686, the second Earl of Tweeddale sold his estates in Peebles-shire to the first Duke of Queensberry, who settled them on his second son, the Earl of March, who, on the abolition of heritable jurisdictions in 1747, claimed L. 4000 for the sheriffship of Peebles, and was allowed L. 3418, 4s. 5d. for that office and the regality of Newlands.* The late Duke of Queensberry, who was born in the town residence of the noble family of March in Peebles, commonly called the deans' house, as it had belonged to the deans of Peebles in former days, spent the early part of his life, and was educated in Neidpath Castle.

* List of Claims.

Peblis to the Play, &c.—Peebles, though in former times celebrated for games and amusements, at which sovereigns presided, can now boast of no such diversions. “*Peblis to the Play*” gives us a good specimen of former sports and pastimes. “It was composed,” as a profound scholar, and good judge of early Scottish literature writes to me, “by James I., one of the most distinguished characters of the age in which he lived. It is written in the same stanza as *Christ-kirk on the Grene*. Like that poem, it is descriptive of rustic merriment and of rustic quarrels, and it is conspicuous for the same rich vein of native humour. It was first published by Pinkerton, and occurs in his select Scottish Ballads, Vol. ii. Lond. 1783.” By a strange and unaccountable mistake which a perusal of one stanza of the poem would have corrected, *Peblis to the Play* has often been ascribed to Allan Ramsay, who, like Hercules of old, seems to have fathered all unappropriated prodigies. Connected with the locality of Peebles is another poem of merit though little known. “From an edition which appeared at Edinburgh in 1603, Mr Pinkerton has also published,” says the learned author of the Life of Buchanan, “*The Thrie Tales of the Thrie Priests of Peblis*. These tales, with apparent propriety, have been referred to the reign of James III. Many of the allusions are completely applicable to the conduct of that deluded prince. King James, it will be necessary to recollect, was slain in the year 1488; and the style of the poem does not seem of a modern cast. “The three priests of Peebles having met on St Bride’s day for the purpose of regaling themselves, agree that each in his turn shall endeavour to entertain the rest by relating some story. They acquit themselves with sufficient propriety. The tales are of a moral tendency, but at the same time are free from the dulness which so frequently infests the preceptive compositions of our earlier poets.”* The earliest edition that has been traced of this curious poem was “imprinted at Edinburgh be Robert Charteris,” 1603, 4to. It is a book of great rarity, and probably not more than one copy exists.

III.—POPULATION.

Before the Reformation the population was probably far greater than at present. The numerous religious houses, the charitable endowments, the *hospitia*, the mills and breweries, all betoken a great population, and a well-maintained set of inhabitants. There is much truth in many of our old Scotch songs, which ascribe

* Irving’s *Lives of the Early Scottish Poets*, Vol. i. p. 372.

comfort and plenty to the neighbourhood of mills and breweries. As every farm-steading, and almost every hamlet had its brewery, and generally its mill, and as numerous cottages were invariably, till about the middle or close of last century, attached to farm-houses, we might naturally expect to find a great population. Besides this, the members of religious houses were in general not only good farmers themselves, but they taught their tenants, to whom they were kind and indulgent landlords, the best mode of cultivating their lands. Hence we almost invariably find that the prevalence of religious houses in any district during the time of Popery, so far from checking agricultural improvements, had the opposite effect; and if the best land of the parish belonged to such establishments, it was not because the monks or friars appropriated it to themselves, which they had no power to do, but because, while the bulk of the community were engaged in warfare, or were too indolent or ignorant to cultivate their lands, *they* were rendering theirs productive by their superior diligence, industry, and skill. So far from many of the inmates of the religious houses being only lazy drones, "*fruges consumere nati*," they laboured with their own hands to raise the produce which they consumed.

Other circumstances some ages ago contributed to the population of Peebles. It was the favourite summer quarters of the Scottish kings for the sports of the chase till the accession of James VI. to the crown of England; the residence of many of the Scottish nobility, and the castle of Neidpath, the seat of the powerful family, whether of the Frazers, the Hays, or the Douglasses,—could not fail to attract a numerous train of followers and dependents. Add to this, that the great extent of the burgh lands and free pasturage must have contributed to keep up a great population, as many of the burgesses were enabled by their civic privileges to live as small farmers.

The present incumbent has examined the presbytery and session records from the earliest date, but he can no where find any entry made of the number of the inhabitants. Dr Webster's report gave 1896 souls; but Mr Findlater observes, that "that return was made up from calculations founded upon the proportion which the whole population is supposed to bear to the examinable persons upon the minister's examination roll." No accurate calculation can be given from such *data*. It is extremely difficult to make up accurate lists, and the number of examinable persons may fluctuate in different years.

According to Dr Dalgliesh's return in the former Statistical Account, the population was

In the old town,	-	-	-	350
In the new town,	-	-	-	1130
In the landward part of the parish,	-	-	-	440
				— 1920

The Government return of 1801 gave	2088 *
1821	- 2701
1831	- 2750 †

1. Families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	93
trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	-	-	-	365
2. All other families not comprised in the above lists,	-	-	-	185
3. Occupiers of land employing labourers,	-	-	-	27
only their own families,	-	-	-	3
4. Labourers employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	100

From the 1st of January 1827 to the 1st of January 1833, the number of proclamations was 134, giving an average of $22\frac{1}{3}$ yearly. Of these cases, when both parties belonged to the parish, the number was 79; and 55 when only one belonged to the parish.

The number of baptisms, as recorded from the beginning of 1827 to the end of 1832, is 284, averaging $47\frac{1}{3}$ a-year. But, as many of the dissenters do not register the births of their children, the above list is considerably below the number of children born.

As the church-yard has been for some years past carefully watched, the remains of persons belonging to other parishes are frequently brought hither for interment; a very accurate return, therefore, of the number of deaths in this parish cannot be given. But as nearly as can be calculated, the average number of deaths may be stated at 47 a-year, for several years past. From 1780 to 1789, inclusive, the yearly average was $48\frac{6}{10}$; from 1790 to the end of the century the number was $31\frac{5}{10}$ a-year; and from 1800 to 1809, inclusive, it was $48\frac{9}{10}$ a-year.

In 1660, the number of baptisms was 59	In 1660, the number of burials was 43
1661, - - - 52	1661, - - - 89
1662, - - - 69	1662, - - - 58
1669, - - - 65	1699, - - - 103
1700, - - - 38	1700, - - - 67
1799, - - - 41	1799, - - - 39
1800, - - - 44	1800, - - - 61

It is not probable that there will be any great increase of population either in the burgh or landward part of the parish for many years to come. Hamlets have disappeared; and no more cottages are kept up than what are sufficient for the accommodation of the

* The number of males returned was probably less than it ought to have been, owing to the reluctance of the young men to be billeted for the militia, and their names being therefore suppressed.

† From a very accurate list made out in 1830 by the elders, there were in the Old Town, 537; in the New Town, 1563; in the landward part of the parish, 717; making a total of 2817.

cultivators of the soil. The town is not extending its limits, and when a house is built, it is generally a handsome structure raised on the site of one that has fallen to decay, adding to the beauty of the town without increasing the number of inhabitants.

The number of illegitimate births in the parish annually may average 5.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of Scotch acres under the plough is 2500: and it is believed that a very small portion of land not yet cultivated could be cultivated with profit.

Plantations.—When Dr Pennecuik published his Description of Tweeddale in 1715, there seems to have been very little wood in this county. “Their greatest want,” says he, “is of timber, little planting to be seen in Tweeddale, except it be some few bushes of trees about the houses of the gentry, and not one wood worth the naming in all this open and windy county; so that this unhappy want of foresight in their forefathers necessitates them to be obliged to the sheriffdom of Lanrick for most part of the timber necessary for their houses and husbandry.”* This reproach is now fortunately wiped off, and the county, particularly the lower part of it, presents a different aspect from what it did in Pennecuik’s days. The late Sir John Hay, the principal proprietor in this parish, towards the end of last century, in addition to various improvements on the estate of Haystone, planted above 300 acres. The present Sir John Hay has within these three years planted upwards of 700 acres, and is still carrying on the work of planting. The Earl of Wemyss and March has also planted between 200 and 300 acres; and other proprietors, though on a smaller scale, have ornamented their estates with plantations.

The land is a light sharp soil, well adapted for oats, barley, and pease. Of late years, wheat has been sown to a considerable extent, and if the returns are not equal to those in the Lothians, the deficiency is not to be ascribed to the unskilfulness of the farmer, but to the difference of soil. The quality seems excellent.†

Husbandry.—The farmers having, from experience, found that the land “had become tired of bearing rye-grass and clover,” instead of a rotation of four years, extend it to five and six years. Turnips are universally cultivated, and are frequently eaten on the

* Description, p. 4.

† The wheat raised on the glebe this year from white Essex wheat on potatoe land, and sown in October, weighed 18 st. 12 lb. imperial weight, of four bushels to the boll, exclusive of the sack.

ground by sheep. The ordinary rotation is, 1. after grass, oats; 2. pease, turnips, or potatoes; 3. wheat or barley, and then rye-grass and clover. The writer of this in spring 1832, and again in 1833, tried the experiment of sowing oats of the Kildrummy kind in the month of February, as he had seen practised in the south of England. Both experiments perfectly succeeded, though he was told that one-half of the seed would be destroyed by the wet, and the other half be devoured by birds. The return this season from scarcely three quarters of an English acre was 8 bolls 4 bushels imperial measure, of 6 bushels to the boll, and 2 bushels of light grain. It was of excellent quality. When made into meal, it yielded a good deal more than what millers term *meal* for *corn*. In the beginning of last November, he sowed two small patches with barley and oats, the braird of which promises well.

Breeds of Live Stock.—The Teeswater breed of cattle is generally reared by the farmers, as it fattens best for the butcher. The sheep are the Cheviot and black-faced breed. *Smearing* is generally practised, and tends greatly to the preservation of sheep. Tar and palm-oil are generally used on black-faced sheep, and tar and butter on the Cheviot. About six fleeces of the black-faced smeared make a stone of 24 lb., and from six to eight fleeces of the Cheviot. *Rock mercury* was at one time used for smearing, but as it was found neither to contribute to the warmth of the sheep, nor to promote the growth of the wool, it was laid aside. Wool has been sold at higher prices this year than for many years past. Black-faced, *smeared*, was sold at 13s. a-stone, and the Cheviot from 20s. to 23s. a-stone of 24lb. The diseases to which the sheep in this parish are most subject are sickness and the louping-ill. The former is inflammation in the bowels or blood, and prevails in pastures where heather abounds. *Hogs* suffer most from this disease. Castor-oil or salts are the best remedies. The louping-ill or palsy prevails in the month of May and beginning of June, particularly during a dry east wind. It attacks lambs and sheep of all ages. *Sturdy*, or water in the head, may also be mentioned in the list of diseases. The seat of the disease is easily discovered by that part of the skull becoming soft and spongy. If not near the root of the horns, it is generally cured by applying red hot iron; but this seldom succeeds if the disease is near the horns.

Rent of Land.—The rent of arable land may be reckoned at 25s. an acre, except a few fields near the town, which bring a higher rent. One of the best farms in the parish, and per-

haps in the county, consisting of 450 acres, all arable, is let for L. 625 a-year. The yearly rental of the parish is supposed to be about L. 7000.

Rate of Wages.—Female servants receive from L. 4 to L. 5 from Whitsunday till Martinmas, and between L. 2 to L. 3 for the other half year. Ploughmen, when lodged in their masters' houses, receive from L. 8 to L. 14 a-year. When married men, they are paid in meal, money, a cow's grass, &c. Shepherds in this pastoral county have generally a certain number of *grazings* for sheep, and their wages must therefore depend on the price of wool and the value of sheep. Labourers during the summer are paid from 9s. to 12s. a-week: masons and wrights, 15s.

The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows.

Assuming that there are 3000 English acres, and that *five* years are the usual rotation, 600 acres will thus be annually allowed for each crop. An entire crop is seldom taken of one kind of grain, &c. as in the fourth and fifth *break*.

600 acres sown grass, 150 stone per acre, at 7d per stone,	-	L. 2,625	0	0
600 do. the same in pasture for 300 cattle at L. 3 each,	-	900	0	0
600 do. oats, 8 bolls per acre, at 12s. per boll,	-	2,880	0	0
150 do. potatoes, 20 bolls per acre, at 5s. per boll,	-	750	0	0
150 do. pease, 4 bolls per acre, at 15s. per boll,	-	450	0	0
300 do. turnips, at L. 3 per acre,	-	900	0	0
200 do. wheat, 12 bolls per acre, at 25s. per boll,	-	3,000	0	0
400 do. barley, 10 bolls per acre, at 16s. per boll,	-	3,200	0	0
The annual thinnings, &c. bark of the larch, &c.	-	300	0	0
Grazing for 8000 sheep at 5s. each per annum,	-	2,000	0	0

L. 17,005 0 0

To the above may be added wool, lambs, &c.

Wool, black-faced, <i>smear'd</i> , 1000 stone at 13s. per stone,	-	650	0	0
Do. Cheviot, <i>smear'd</i> , 143 st. at 22s. per st.	-	157	6	0
Do. do. <i>not smear'd</i> , 143 st. at 32s. per st.	-	228	6	0
5000 lambs sold, averaging 10s. each,	-	2,500	0	0
2000 kept for breeding, feeding, &c.	-	1,000	0	0
2000 ewes, hogs, wethers, &c. sold annually at 20s.	-	2,000	0	0

* L. 5,535 12 0

Manufactures.—Much has been said against the want of enterprise and public spirit in the inhabitants not introducing manufactures. The high price of coals is one obstacle; and, though there is plenty of water, it might be difficult to procure another *fall* of water in addition to that of the Tweed used for the corn-mills, and that of the Eddlestone water for the waulk-mills. A manufactory for carding, spinning, and making cloth, flannel, and plaiding to a very considerable extent, has for several years existed. In the

* No allowance is here made for deaths, which, in wet winters and barren springs, are very considerable; the calculations, especially on the last two items, are probably too high, as the total amount shews rather more than the usual proportion to the rental.

same establishment waulking and dyeing are carried on. Stocking-making is also a branch of manufacture here, but of very limited extent. Cotton webs are sent from Glasgow, but afford a very poor remuneration to the weavers, few of whom can, with the utmost diligence, earn more than six shillings a-week.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Town.—Peebles, the capital of the county, and the seat of the presbytery, is situated on the north side of the Tweed, in latitude $55^{\circ} 38' 40''$, and $3^{\circ} 6'$ west longitude, the meridian of Edinburgh passing through the town. It is 21 miles south from Edinburgh, 22 from Selkirk, and 54 from Glasgow. The town is divided into the Old and New, the former standing on a high ridge of ground, with the Tweed forming the southern boundary; and extending to the east on a lower tract of ground; it is bounded by the Eddlestone or Peebles water. The New town, with the exception of a few paltry houses on the south side of the Tweed, lies in a peninsula formed by that river and the Eddlestone water. This water runs in almost an opposite direction to the Tweed, and falls into it, contrary to the course of most rivers, forming an acute angle, with the apex pointing up the stream. The New town presents the strange anomaly of being bounded on the south by a river running due east, and on the north by another river running due west.

The burgh of Peebles, till the passing of the bill which altered the representative system, joined with Selkirk, Linlithgow, and Lanark, in returning a member of Parliament. It was then thrown into the county. The town-council consists of a provost, two bailies, a dean of guild and treasurer, with twelve councillors. The number of electors amounts to about 94. The revenues of the burgh amount to about L. 643, from the following sources.:

Rents of lands,	-	-	-	L. 333	2	6½
Rents of mills, houses, &c.	-	-	-	168	14	2
Customs, &c.	-	-	-	120	5	0
Few-duties,	-	-	-	10	9	8¼
Interest on fences, &c.	-	-	-	10	17	9½
				————— L. 643		
					9	2¼

The amount of debt in October 1833 was L. 5426, 2s. 5d. The income at present is more than sufficient for all expenses, and even for discharging part of the debt. The town is very well supplied with water, and lighted with gas from the burgh funds. The weekly market for grain in bulk has within these few years been revived, and the magistrates, with a becoming liberality to encourage the farmers to bring their grain, make no demand for customs.

Roads and Bridges.—From the excellence of the materials of

which they are made, the roads in Tweeddale are generally very good, but too narrow, and in a hilly country where precipices are so common, the want of parapets is greatly felt, and adds to the danger of travelling by night. It is not known when the bridge across the Tweed at Peebles was built. As the style of architecture in the different arches and piers is not the same, it was probably built at different times.* It consists of five arches in the channel of the river, and three small arches on dry ground, for carrying off the water when the Tweed overflows its banks. The bridge is inconveniently narrow, being only eight feet wide, admitting only one carriage at a time, but it will probably be widened in the course of next summer, as an act of Parliament has been obtained for that purpose. An iron bridge for foot-passengers was thrown across the Tweed a little below Peebles, where it is 108 feet wide, by Sir John Hay, about sixteen years ago, to connect his pleasure grounds, which lie on both sides of the river. It is a light handsome structure, and, though much exposed to violent winds, it is as perfect as when it was built. A survey was made several years ago by Mr Telford, for the purpose of forming an iron rail-road between Glasgow and Berwick, but the design was abandoned.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church was built in 1784, and stands at the west end of the High Street, on a small eminence, on which the castle of Peebles formerly stood. It is a substantial edifice, built of dark-coloured whinstone, and if a little more architectural taste had been shown, it would have been very ornamental to the High Street. In imitation of Catholic and Episcopal churches, it is placed due east and west instead of fronting the High Street, which runs a few points north-east and south-west. The massive steeple which, by being built inside the church, destroys the uniformity of the gallery, should have been placed outside of the church, and flanked with a few pillars. The seats in the body of the church, by running *across* instead of *lengthways*, make the audience sit with their side to the pulpit. Being built on a gravelly mound, and the whole of the workmanship being of the best order, the church is extremely comfortable for the audience, and this comfort has been still farther increased by a stove having been introduced two years ago.

The stipend, which was augmented in 1821, consists of 139 bolls, 1 peck of oatmeal, and the same quantity of barley, paid according to the highest rate of fiar prices in the county, and L.39, 19s. surrendered

* On one of the piers are the letters IVII26, which may perhaps be meant for 1426.

teind in money. In this is included the sum of L. 10 for communion elements. The amount of stipend varies from L.250 to L.400 a-year, according to the fiars prices. The teinds are so nearly exhausted, that no farther augmentation can take place. According to Penne-cuik, the annual value of the living of Peebles was 6000 merks, *communibus annis*, but to this was attached the rectory of Manor.* At the revolution in 1688, on the final establishment of the Presbyterian Religion, when a valuation was made of the different livings, in the Presbytery Records it is stated, that the minister of Manor declared, “that his paroch being a pendicle of Peebles, he was presented with the small vicceradge of the paroch, for the payment whereof, he had his localitie from the parson of Peebles. The parson of Peebles furnishes the communion elements.” It is stated by Dr Dalgliesh, that at the reformation, “the patron of the parish assigned part of the vicarage tithes of Peebles to the master of the grammar school.” A vicar still exists in the parish who draws between L. 17 and L. 18 a-year, from the small tithes, but has no connexion with the grammar-school, nor any ecclesiastical establishment, farther than precenting in church. This appointment is in the gift of the patron of the parish.

The old part of the manse was built in 1770, and a front was added to it in 1812, giving four additional rooms. It stands on the top of a steep bank, 22 feet above the surface of the Tweed, which washes the garden on the south. It is in excellent order, and in every respect is a very desirable residence. The glebe consists of $6\frac{1}{2}$ English acres, of which about three quarters of an acre are meadow, and the rest arable, and of excellent quality. When the addition was made to the manse, upwards of an acre of meadow land was *excambed* from the glebe, for a piece of ground which lay adjoining to the garden of the manse. The Earl of Wemyss, who succeeded to the title and estates of the Earl of March, on the death of the Duke of Queensberry, is patron of the parish.

There are four dissenting places of worship in the burgh; two of the Associate Synod, one of which formerly belonged to the Antiburgher communion; one of the Relief; and one Episcopal. That which belonged to the Antiburghers is now vacant, the last two clergymen having gone to America; but another is on the eve of being settled. The stipend is to be L. 65 a-year, with a house and garden. The other Associate Synod congregation pay their minister L. 130 a-year, including communion ele-

* Description, p. 2.

ments, besides a house and garden. The minister informs me that his charge extends to no less than *nine* parishes. The clergyman of the Episcopal communion had from the beginning of his labours in 1828, L. 70 a-year, but a reduction of L. 20 being proposed, he resigned his charge at Whitsunday last. Another has lately been appointed. Of the Relief congregation, I cannot give any accurate account.

The total number of families attending the Established church is about 232; of families attending the chapels of dissenters, 108.*

Education.—There are two teachers who are appointed by the magistrates, and have salaries from the burgh funds. The master of the grammar-school is allowed a good house for the accommodation of boarders, and L. 10 a-year of salary: from 16 scholars he receives L. 16 a-year. The boarders enter into a different calculation. The master of the English school has a salary of L. 28, and when the number of scholars is considerable, L. 10 additional for an assistant, but no house. His fees amount to betwixt L. 30 and L. 40 a-year. His fees as session-clerk are somewhat under L. 10 a-year. A female teacher is allowed L. 10 a-year by the burgh. The number of scholars attending the grammar-school is 18 day scholars, and 48 boarders.† In the three schools taught by females, the number of scholars at present is 87, making in all, the number of scholars at the day schools 491. In this list, those attending the evening classes are not included, as several of them are day-scholars. There is no parochial school, and considering the population of the parish, it may reasonably be inquired why provision is not made for such an establishment, as was done some years ago in Haddington and several other burghs. The grammar-school has long and deservedly been distinguished as a boarding establishment, and never more so than at present. There are no mortifications nor any funds for the education of the poor, who are taught at the expense of the kirk-session. For several years a Sabbath evening school has been taught in each of the two meeting-houses belonging to the Associate Synod: this school, however, is not limited to the children of any particular congregation. The present incumbent in the beginning of last summer began a Sabbath evening school with three assistants, which promises to do much good.

* When the heads of families attend different places of worship, they are not included in these enumerations. From a census taken by the elders in 1830, the number of individuals belonging to the different congregations was as follows:—

Number of grown up persons attending the Established church, 850; 1st Burgher congregation, formerly Anti-Burgher, 105; 2d Burgher congregation, 247; Relief congregation, 329; Episcopal meeting-house, 7.

† In the English school there are 81 scholars; and in three private schools the scholars amount to 257.

Poor.—In a populous parish, where no compulsory assessment is levied, and where the management of the poor devolves on the kirk-session, few duties fall to a clergyman which require greater prudence, caution, and patient investigation, than the application of the poors funds. Most of my brethren will concur with me in stating, that in the first two or three years of our incumbency, the persons who draw most freely from the session funds and the minister's purse are the least deserving objects, and it is only when taught by experience we become a little more discriminating in our charities.

In the oldest session record, where any mention is made of the distribution of money to the poor, the receipts from 23d April 1662 to 25th March 1663, were L. 62, 5s. Scots, and the disbursements L. 137, 8s. Scots; and there was a debt due by the kirk-session of L. 232, 4s. From that date to the present time, there has been a number of regular poor on the list. In 1699, the sum of L. 88 Scots, and a few months afterwards L. 95, were distributed among 74 "clamant" poor. In 1733, the collection at the dispensation of the Sacrament was L. 91, 17s. Scots; and on that occasion, and on many others both before and after that date, the common beggars received nearly the same allowance as the regular poor. Eight years before that date, in 1725, there were 18 regular poor on the list, and 15 who occasionally received relief. And a meeting of the heritors and kirk-session "appoint that any of the said 33 poor persons who shall apply to the minister, and shall be furnished with certificates under his hand for charity, are to be served by the householders within the paroch, according to their several abilities, once a-week, and discharges the inhabitants of the paroch to serve any others."* That we may compare the state of the poors' funds a hundred years ago with the present expenditure, it may be farther stated, that from July 1732 to August 1739, the receipts were L. 3156, 17s. Scots, and the disbursements L. 3086, 19s. The maintenance of an orphan child in 1733 was L. 2 Sterling, and 10s. for clothing; at present, the common allowance is 2s. 6d. a-week. A coffin for a pauper, paid by the kirk-session, cost 4s. Sterling. The average allowance to a regular pauper seems to have been 8d. a fortnight. For many years previous to 1760, from L. 60 to L. 90 Scots was the collection made at the sacrament; from that time till the end of the century, about L. 8 Sterling. At present, the number of poor on the roll is 28; of these 7 are men, and the remaining 21 women. The allowance

* Session Records.

varies from 1s. to 3s. 6d. a-week. In the return made lately by the writer of this article to Parliament, the average allowance for 1832 was 1s. 10 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. a-week. In addition to the above, there are 19 orphan children on the list, and one insane female lodged at the rate of L. 18 a-year. The whole annual expenditure, calculating for seven years, is L. 272.* There has for some years been rather a reduction than an increase. No allowance is made to persons out of employment, if able to work; but if, from bad health, they cannot earn a subsistence, parochial relief is given without the session taking any cognizance of their substance. A different system prevails in England; and the writer of this article has known the church-wardens dispose of a poor man's cow before they granted him relief in his illness; the consequence of which was, that no distinction being thus made between provident and improvident habits, he continued a pauper for life.

The poor are supported by the collections at the church doors, averaging L. 62 a-year,—by the interest of L. 700,—by mortcloth money, and the voluntary contribution of the heritors, paid according to the valuation of their lands. Though they contribute about two-thirds of the whole money expended on the poor, and though only three paupers belong to the landward part of the parish, the moderator of the kirk-session, at the half yearly meetings, has only to state how much money is required, and it is cheerfully granted, with the exception of one individual, whose contribution would be about L. 2 a-year, but who has long refused to pay.†

* In this sum are included clothing and education for several of the children,—the salaries of the treasurer and kirk officer,—the fees of the synod and presbytery clerks, &c.

† The most objectionable part of the present system of managing the poor is the *law of settlement*, the bad effects of which are forcibly experienced in this parish. With the exception of two or three small villages, there is no other place than the county town to which a labouring man can resort, when, by reason of bodily infirmities or advancing old age, he is not equal to the duties of an able-bodied man. As there are no supernumerary cottages in the country parishes, he must give up his house to his successor, and betake himself to the burgh, where lodgings of all descriptions can be procured. If he can struggle on for three years by jobbing, working on the public roads, or by living on the savings of his industry, without applying for relief to the parish in which his best years were spent, and which was benefited by his labour, when he can work no longer, or his means are exhausted, a settlement for himself, or, in the event of his death, for his widow, is thus obtained in this parish. We are thus burdened not with the poor either of the town or the landward part of the parish, but by many from all the neighbouring country parishes. This was an evil so much felt so far back as 1749, that “the session, considering that there are several poor old people come into this place and parish who likely will prove burdensome to the poors’ box, and who are not clothed with sufficient testimonials, do therefore appoint the elders in their several bounds to take strict notice of such, and apply to the magistrates for their concurrence to remove them out of the place, unless they produce sufficient testimonials from their respective parishes to which they belong, and from whence they come, that they are willing to receive them back as soon as they prove troublesome and burdensome to this place.”† The resolutions and enactments of the

In the application of money to the poor, it may be mentioned, that the collections made at the administration of the Lord's Supper, now twice a-year, amounting to about L. 15 or L. 16, are given, not as in former times, doubling the fortnight's allowance, to the regular paupers, but are disposed of by giving two-thirds of the collections to communicants at the sacrament, who are not on the poor's list, and the remainder to the regular poor who are members of the church.

In treating of the poor's laws, it is not unusual to prognosticate that Scotland will soon be in the same condition as England. No opinion can be more erroneous, as no Scotch act of Parliament bears any resemblance to the 43d of Elizabeth, as it is now interpreted and acted upon. The poor in Scotland are under the management of the heritors and kirk-session; in England, a magistrate in a distant part of the county can award what relief he thinks necessary, without knowing the merits of the case, till the Quarter Sessions are held.

If the funds of the poor are administered with a steady and judicious hand, there is no great prospect of any considerable increase of expenditure, unless the population should be greatly augmented. The utmost caution, however, should be observed in admitting poor persons on the permanent roll, for then it is almost impossible to strike them off. All donations or legacies left to the poor of any parish ought to be strictly applied to them, and not given indiscriminately to new incomers who have not gained a settlement, or to paupers belonging to other parishes. To extend such charities equally to all, is to hold out a premium and encouragement for the poor to settle in places to which they do not belong, and to consume those resources which should be applied to the native population.

Inns, &c.—The number of inns in the burgh is 6, of taverns 7, and of grocers' shops where spirits are sold, 17. There are 3 breweries. The reduction of the duties on whisky was defended by the Chancellor of the Exchequer, on the plea of underselling the smuggler, and thus putting a stop to illicit distillation. It may reasonably be questioned if the country has gained by the change in the excise laws. No doubt, smuggling supported a lawless race of men who set order and good government at defiance; but it ought to be remembered that illicit distillation was confined

kirk-session were excellent, but unfortunately neither the magistrates of this burgh nor any other magistrates can enforce them. The grievance is severely felt, but we cannot remedy it. A legislative enactment that would extend the law of settlement to five or rather to seven consecutive years of residence, would confer a great benefit on towns surrounded by parishes where the work of depopulation is going forward, and would thus in a great measure equalize the burden of supporting the poor.

to certain districts, and its demoralizing influence was not generally felt. Cheap whisky, from the licensed distiller, is vended through the *whole* country, and many districts, formerly strangers to the small still, and distinguished for the order and sobriety of the inhabitants, now suffer from its baneful effects. Private vices have, in the fullest sense of the word, been made for the time to produce, not public benefits, but an increased revenue, as if any state could be benefited by the corruption and moral degradation of its inhabitants. The consumption of whisky by the drunkard, may for a while swell the returns of the excise, but eventually, the prosperity and the welfare of the country must suffer from his unproductive labour.

Banks.—A branch of the British Linen Company's Bank was established some years ago in the burgh. There are two friendly societies,—a savings' bank,—a curling and coursing club. The royal archers occasionally visit the place. Poaching is very little known. Salmon are killed at all seasons when found in the river; but unless an information is lodged with the sheriff-substitute or the justices of the peace, no notice is taken of the trespassers in *close* time. The *leistering* of salmon may be considered a kind of amusement, requiring much skill and address, and affords a good recreation for those of sedentary habits; and so far from leading, like poaching in game, to corruption of morals, many who engage in it, are as respectable and well-behaved young men as the burgh contains.

Fairs.—The charter granted by James the Sixth, confirmed to the burgesses the right of holding “three free fairs thrice in the year,” two of which were to be continued for the space of forty-eight hours, and the third to last no less than eight days, “according to use and wont.” Four fairs are now held annually for hiring servants, and the sale of cattle and sheep, but one day is found quite sufficient for transacting all the business of each fair.

Fuel.—There is very little *peat-moss* in the parish, and coals form the chief article of fuel. They are brought from Mid-Lothian, and cost about 8d. or 9d. the cwt.

Prison.—A list of the commitments for the last six years was prepared; but as many of these were for offences of a trifling nature, such as being a vagrant, and suffering one night's confinement, it is unnecessary to swell these pages with the detail. The average number of commitments for the county for the last six years amount to about 28 a-year.

March 1834.

PARISH OF INNERLEITHEN.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES PATE, MINISTER.

THE REV. PATRICK BOOTH, ASSISTANT MINISTER.

Boundaries.—THE parish of Innerleithen is of a triangular figure, the base of which rests on the river Tweed, while the opposite angle falls on that ridge of mountains which bounds the prospect from Edinburgh, towards the south, and is well known by the name of the Morfoot Hills. It here meets the parishes of Edlestone and Temple, and were lines drawn from this point, to form the other two sides, one of these would fall upon the Tweed to the west, two miles below Peebles, and the other, where it meets the parish of Stow on the east, five miles above the junction of the river Ettrick. The parish contains, according to Armstrong, only 27,587 English acres.

Topographical Appearances.—The group of mountains in this parish forms part of that chain which runs from south-west to north-east, through the pastoral districts of the south of Scotland, until it sinks into the German sea, near St Abb's Head. The highest summits of this range are found where Tweeddale and Annandale meet Selkirkshire,—Hartfell, White Coomb, and Loch Craig, being 2800 feet above the sea. The parish is intersected by several deep glens, each traversed by its crystal rivulet, tending towards the main river. The largest of these rivulets is called Leithen Water, and gives its name to the parish. The only level ground in the parish is the alluvial land along the banks of the river,—which in Scotland is called *holm* or *haugh*. This being formed during the course of centuries, by the overflowings of the river, is of a very rich soil, though in general more suited for permanent pasture than for tillage. The same kind of land to a lesser extent may likewise be found upon the Leithen for three or four miles above its junction with the Tweed. A narrow border of gravelly loam likewise skirts the foot of the hills. The valley of the Tweed in Peebles-shire, like most of the upland valleys in Scotland, having been originally a chain of lochs, the soil consists of rounded and

water-worn gravel, with the addition of the soil, which in process of time has fallen from the acclivities above. A great portion of these slopes has been cultivated, and probably was the first land cultivated by the aboriginal inhabitants,—what was formerly called *croft land*, being of this description.

Meteorology.—The clouds, surcharged with vapour, take the same course as the great valley of the Tweed, which here runs from south-west to north-east; and during summer, many showers that would be highly favourable to our gravelly soils, and steep hill sides, fall on the mountains and the heads of the glens, while there is little or no rain in the intermediate valley. It is partly from this cause, and partly from the open nature of the subsoil, that our arable ground suffers so often from drought, that it is commonly said Innerleithen and Caberstone would require a shower every day. The south-west winds often blow with great force, and, from a certain point between west and south-west, the wind has sometimes the violence of a tornado. There is a hill above the farm of William's Lea, composed of schistus, where the wind has been known to lift the slaty fragments, making them clatter fearfully in the air, as they came in contact with one another; and once, it is said, during a snow storm, a quantity of stones, some nearly half a ton in weight, were found scattered and dispersed over a space of a quarter of a mile. If this report be true, the phenomenon was probably the result of electrical agency.

Experience has shewn that rain may be expected, of longer or shorter continuance, about the 20th of June, the second week of August, and the middle of October. There is generally about ten days of dry fine weather in February, and ten days of cold dry east wind in the month of May. On the last two days of May, or the first two of June, it has been observed that there is either a gale of wind or frost. Three years out of four there is a severe frost, so late as greatly to hurt the apple blossom, and the more tender sorts of stone-fruit. In some seasons, however, and in favourable situations, peaches come to a good flavour on open walls.

From the nature of the climate, it may be inferred, that in some seasons there are violent snow-storms. It has been well ascertained, that the power a flock of sheep possesses of suffering hunger when the ground is covered with snow depends greatly upon their pasture in the preceding autumn, or more immediately upon the fat and tallow they may happen to carry at the time, the tallow and superabundant fat being absorbed by hunger, and appearing to serve

the same purpose to the sheep, in enabling them to bear the famine of a snowy winter, as the hump upon the back does to the camel, in empowering him to survive the still greater privations of the desert.

Diseases.—On this head it may only be remarked, that, about sixty or seventy years ago, ague or intermittent fever was, during the easterly winds of spring, very common in habitations that were situated near the level of the haughs, along the river to the eastward of the Leithen; but, from a cause not satisfactorily ascertained, it is now unknown.

Hydrography—Springs.—The mineral spring at Innerleithen has become of late years greatly frequented. It was formerly called the *Dow-well*, from the circumstance, that, long before the healing virtues of the water were discovered, pigeons from the neighbouring country resorted to it. Had it been known in ancient times as a medicinal water, without doubt the Roman Catholic clergy would have taken advantage of the fact, and dedicated it to some saint.

The well springs from the base of the Lee-pen, and is about 200 feet above the street of the village. The mountain appears to be composed of greywacke, clay-slate, and red felspar-porphry. Originally the water issued at one spring, and that in no great quantity. The ground about it was wet and miry, and on one side only there was a form or long bench, which was used by the aged and infirm, who resorted to the hill. Its celebrity, however, increased, and a few years ago, Lord Traquair, the proprietor of the village, erected a neat and commodious building at the mineral spring, with a verandah in front, from which the water is served out to the visitors.

In digging for the source of the spring (that the water might be obtained as free as possible from any connection with the surface,) it was found to branch into two streams of different strength. These were analysed in 1822 by Dr Fyfe, and a quart bottle of each was found to contain the following ingredients: 1st stream, 36 grains, viz. carbonate of magnesia, 5.3; muriate of lime, 9.5; muriate of soda, 21.2 = 36.—2d stream, 60.6 grains, viz. carbonate of magnesia, 10.2; muriate of lime 19.4; muriate of soda, 31. = 60.6. The large quantity of carbonate of magnesia (seven parts in 10,000 of water,) renders it probable that it must contain a quantity of carbonic acid sufficient to constitute an acidulous spring, in order to be capable of holding the earth in solution. These waters, which have now rendered Innerleithen a place of fashionable resort, have long been celebrated for the cure of old wounds, diseases of the eyes, and for relieving stomach and bilious complaints;

though these effects are no doubt partly attributable to the pure air and dry climate of the situation.

There is another well known spring in this parish, which probably was famous long before that of Innerleithen was even known. It is situated among the hills near the boundary of Mid-Lothian. Before roads were made through the interior of the country, the ancient road from Ettrick forest, Eskdale, and Tèviotdale, towards Edinburgh, was carried up the Leithen, entering the parish of Heriot moor, by a deep and narrow defile called the *Dewar-Gill*. The spring now referred to bursts from the foot of the mountain, and affords a supply of the purest water in extraordinary profusion.

As there are few *bogs* * along the foot of our hills to serve as reservoirs for the rain, the water of our rivulets is of the most transparent purity.

Geology.—The great range of mountains formerly alluded to, of which Innerleithen forms a part, belongs to the *greywacke* formation. The strata, which are of *greywacke*, *greywacke-slate*, and *clay-slate*, range from S. W. to N. E., or nearly so. The dip is at various angles. Red and grey porphyries accompany the greywacke. They are of great thickness in some places; and these attending rocks are found in different places, all the way from about a mile west of the village to Hollylee, four miles to the eastward.

At Grieston, on the Traquair side of the Tweed, where a slate-quarry has been long wrought, beautiful red porphyry is found resting upon the slate. The mountain of Windlestrae-Law is cut by a glen on its south face called Priesthope, and the rock is laid bare for a considerable way. Here alternating strata of red and grey porphyry, gneiss, and granite, and flinty slate, are observed.† The grey porphyry is of a beautiful pure colour, mixed with many crystals of felspar, and of great hardness. The red porphyry is of all shades, from a brownish-yellow to a dark blood-red. The latter has often been sent to Edinburgh for curling-stones, as it is both extremely hard, and does not splinter, and takes a very fine polish.

Querns, or ancient hand-mills, have been found; and one, or

* By this word is meant those tracts of moist clay and peaty soil formerly covered with *Carices* and *Juncus articulatus*, that skirt the green hills of Dumfries and Selkirk-shires, and which, before they were begun to be drained with care and attention, retained the rain water, and from which it gradually flowed into the burns and rivulets, supplying them with water, holding in solution much decayed animal and vegetable matter. The draining of these bogs has neither benefited the sheep nor the salmon fishery.

† This stratified granite is mentioned by Professor Playfair in his illustrations of Hutton, as having been found by Sir James Hall and himself in Fasnet water, in the eastern declivity of the Lammermoor ridge; and he mentions also that it was found at Loch-Ken in Galloway. Windlestrae-Law lies in the direction of the strata between these two places.—Vide *Edinburgh Encycl. Article Selkirkshire*.

the remains of one, may still be seen in the neighbourhood, made of Aberdeen granite. Whether this may indicate that the Aberdonians of ancient times made a trade and profit of the stones on their moors, as at present, or whether it had been left by some retreating army, it is not easy to determine. It appears that the upper stone of these simple corn-mills, which was turned by a wooden peg in a hole near the edge, was always formed of rough mica-slate.

A quarry of large and thick slate, which was dressed for pavement, was once wrought at Hollylee; but the particular sort that was in demand, instead of rising with the acclivity of the hill, sunk downwards, so that it became impossible to work it, unless by actual mining. It was long, therefore, abandoned; but of late the present proprietor has, with admirable effect, used it again, along with Arbroath stone, in making tessellated pavement for the lobby and principal passages in his house.

A quarry of clay-slate for roofing was likewise wrought for many years below Thornylee, at the eastern boundary of the parish, but the workings were too near the river, so that there was a want of room for disposing of the *tirring* and refuse. Both slates and flags were moreover of inferior quality for pavement.

The mixture of gravel, not much water-worn, with ferruginous clay, which is called till, and is found over all the country, but never above the most recent alluvial deposits, was hardly to have been expected in the valley of the Tweed, where it is nearly a mile in width. But in driving the large beams that support the wooden bridge lately erected below Traquair house, so much opposition was met with from impenetrable matter, as to induce the belief that at no greater depth than six feet there was a bed of till.

There is a large accumulation of small rounded gravel and fine sand at the foot of the hill, called the *Curlee*. Some years ago a sand-pit was dug in it for the purpose of building and plastering. The sand appeared to have been deposited in layers, generally distinctly marked, and having an irregular waving appearance, as sand often has when left by the ebbing of an eddy tide upon a beach. Among the various strata, there was one consisting of the debris of coal. Taken altogether it distinctly indicates the agency of a large and deep body of water flowing with a current down the valley of the Tweed, and probably meeting with another flowing down the valley of the Leithen. But there is no coal in the course of either. This *coal-gravel*, therefore, could have been brought by

the waters of neither of these rivers. In Lothian the coal lies deep, and does not appear in the banks of the rivers. In Clydesdale it often crops out, and the small fragments we speak of resemble more what is met with in the western district.

Peat of a sufficient depth to be dug for fuel is found in great abundance around the sources of the Leithen, and in small extent on the top and southern declivities of Windlestrae-Law, which rises to the eastward of it; but it is so distant from the village and the farm-houses along the Tweed, that they find coal, although brought twenty miles from Lothian, to be greatly cheaper.

The tops of the higher mountains are covered with moss or peat of greater or less depth. On the ridges below the summits, its depth is often only a few inches, and of course it is less wet. On this there are tracts covered by *Nardus stricta*, *Juncus squarrosus*, and *Galium saxatile*. On the south-east side of Windlestrae-Law, among blocks of red porphyry, these plants are singularly luxuriant, and they are mixed with a species of *Agrostis* and *Anthoxanthum*. Every part of the latter plant is likewise greatly larger than on the banks of the river 1800 feet below. These plants always indicate the mossy soil on which they grow to be mixed with sand. Here it is probably derived from the porphyry.

Zoology.—In the year 1830, on the glen heads below the tract of sheep-pasture, we have noticed the larva of a species of the large long-legged *Tipula* devouring the herbage upon the hill sides, cutting the plants above the roots, and just before they assume the green colour. The swaird adhering together by the intermingled mosses could have been rolled up like blanket.*

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—The land-owners in the order of the valuation of their properties are as follows:

Sir James G. Suttie,	-	-	-	L. 2575	7	5
James Ballantyne, Hollylee,	-	-	-	1300	0	0
Thomas Horsburgh of Horsburgh,	-	-	-	1252	7	10
Earl of Traquair,	-	-	-	913	16	2
R. N. Campbell of Kaillzie,	-	-	-	536	8	10
Miss Innes of Thornilee,	-	-	-	467	16	8
William Stewart of Glen Ormestone,	-	-	-	244	1	5
William Eckford, Green Head of Innerleithen,	-	-	-	9	0	0
				<hr/>		
				L. 7298	18	4

* We have been assured from good authority, that, in the year 1762, the green hills around the heads of Ettrick and Yarrow were rendered completely brown by the ravages of a smooth light brown caterpillar with dull yellow stripes; and that forty years after, in 1802, a similar visitation took place. In that year countless flocks of crows and sea-fowl were seen for many days hastening to the banquet.

Parochial Registers.—The registers of the parish have been preserved, and are legible from the year 1660.

Antiquities.—The names of rivers and mountains, of slopes, burns, cleughs, and tower steads, in this parish are allowed to show that the inhabitants whom the present Gothic race drove out, spoke a dialect of the Celtic language, intermediate between that of the North Highlands and the Welsh, and that their successors retained many of their names of remarkable objects.*

Porras-hill, or Purves-hill, is a farm-steading placed on a rising ground, where a number of remarkable terraces descend to near the level of the river, about 200 yards long. The present road occupies the line of the lowest but one of these; three rise above it, all about eighteen feet broad. There is then a larger interval between the terraces, as if the upper series of them had been intended to be separated from the lower, but this space is not regular, for it is much wider at the one end than the other. Above this there are other three terraces approaching towards the brow of the declivity on which they have been formed, but none of them so parallel as those below. We abstain from offering any conjecture as to the purposes of these works.

Modern Buildings.—Several new houses have lately been built in the village for the accommodation of those who resort to the place for the benefit of the waters. The mansion-houses most worthy of notice in the parish are those of Mr Stewart of Glen Ormiston, and Mr Ballantyne of Hollylee. A beautiful wooden bridge was some time ago erected under the superintendence, and according to a plan, of Mr Jardine civil-engineer. It displays much scientific art in the design and execution.

III.—POPULATION.

There are no documents by which we could form any estimate of the population before Dr Webster's report in 1755. The earliest parish registers give merely an account of marriages, and probably only a part of these.

The population in 1755, according to Dr Webster, was					559
By the last Statistical Account,					560
In 1801,	-	-	-	-	609
1811,	-	-	-	-	677
1821,	-	-	-	-	705
1831,	-	-	-	-	810

The increasing celebrity of the mineral spring may account for the progressive increase of the population; and this might be supposed to be the chief cause, had not the increase in the village been

* Notices of several hill-forts, and towers, &c. in the parish will be found in the original MS.

only 59, while in the country it has been 141. The temporary lodgers in the village during summer are of course not included in the above state of the population. We are unable to assign any satisfactory reason for the increase,—the manufactory in the parish having employed more hands when the last account was written than it does at present, and the quantity of land in tillage being more now than it was then.

The number of persons residing in the village at this time, not including summer lodgers, is 447; in the country, 363.

It is important to add, that the number of lodgers in the village for the benefit of the waters in the course of the summer 1832 was no less than 1438.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	-	160
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	-	59
in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	-	33
other families,	-	-	-	-	-	68
2. The average number of births yearly for the last seven years,	-	-	-	-	-	10
of deaths,	-	-	-	-	-	7
of marriages,	-	-	-	-	-	5
3. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	-	-	-	346
upwards of 70,	-	-	-	-	-	24

There are three gentlemen, all of moderate fortune, resident in the parish, and on their own lands.

The number of proprietors of land is 8; and the property of only one of these is below L. 50 a-year.

Amusements of the People.—The people in this parish have been always much addicted to athletic exercises and games, which have probably been much encouraged by the dry soil and the climate, and by the beautiful village green. The latter, though considered as the common property of the village, has been appropriated, feued, and built upon. The fondness of the young men of the village for the sports of the place attracted the attention of the visitors, and induced them often to participate. The gay loungers at the watering-place came habitually to take an interest in the games; and in 1827 forty-two noblemen, knights, and gentlemen joined in instituting an annual competition for prizes in all gymnastic exercises; an annual sum being subscribed for defraying the expenses. The records of the St Ronan's Club (as it is called) show that the young men of the village have carried off their share at least of the honours awarded.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The extent of land that bears the marks of having been occasionally in tillage may be fully 2400

acres. Yet, if we except two farms that have almost wholly been brought into regular cultivation within the last ten or fifteen years, there is not such a thing as an arable farm in the parish. They are all sheep-farms, with arable land attached to them. Thirty years ago, when they were let on lease, nothing was said about the value per acre: it was the sheep which the farm could contain that were valued. The number of acres which remain constantly in sheep-pasture is 25,700. The number of acres that are at present uninclosed sheep-pasture, and that might be cultivated, may perhaps amount to 1500, or somewhat more; but whether any thing like this extent could, with a profitable application of capital, be added to the cultivated land, may be reasonably doubted. There are about 500 acres of planted wood; and probably 30 acres of brushwood, consisting of hazel and birch chiefly, intermixed with dwarfish specimens of the trees and shrubs enumerated as indigenous. The trees generally planted now are larch, oak, ash, and elm.

Rent of Land.—As the arable land in the parish is never let by the acre, the value of it is a somewhat difficult matter to settle. We are inclined to state the average rent at 23s. per acre, and the produce at L. 3, 9s. 6d. The average rent of the sheep-pasture is nearly 2s. 7½d. per acre; the average produce 4s. 8d.

As the sheep-pasture has sometimes no arable ground attached to it, the value is more easily determined; the average of the uncultivated land is nearly 4s. 3d. per sheep's grass; on cultivated land 9s.; and an ox or cow L. 3, 10s.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of labour of a man throughout the year is 1s. 8d. per day; and of a woman for hoeing turnips, hay-making, and barn-work in winter, 10d.

Breeds of Live Stock.—The old breed of cattle in Tweeddale was light-bodied and long-legged, with rather long up-turned horns, and spotted brown, black, or white. About forty or fifty years ago this breed was greatly improved by the produce of an Alderney bull and two queys, that were brought into the country by the late Earl of Traquair. Of late years, well-bred bulls from Northumberland are annually procured by some of the principal farmers; and consequently, allowing for the bareness of our pasture, the breed of cattle is every year drawing nearer to that of the shires of Selkirk and Roxburgh, and perhaps might be in some risk of becoming in general too heavy for the district.

The breed of sheep is the black-faced and Cheviot, both greatly

improved of late, excepting in the quality of the wool,* which is now much coarser.

It may be added, that the breeds of sheep, cattle, and horses have received great benefit from the Selkirkshire Pastoral Society, instituted by Lord Napier about ten years ago, and of which our resident proprietors and principal farmers are members.

Quantity of Live Stock.—The number of cattle is 383; horses 80; sheep, 16,040; goats, 50.

Husbandry.—The state of farm-buildings and enclosures is good; and perhaps the extent of the former is greater than has ever yet been found quite necessary. Leases are of all sorts, according to the pleasure of the parties.

Improvements.—The only great improvement in the parish has been effected by Mr Stewart of Ormiston, or Glen-Ormiston. By the most excellent system of cultivation, he has raised the value of his property, so that the annual return or rent in pounds Sterling is much more than double the valuation in pounds Scottish; and that without including the annual value of more than 200 acres in very thriving plantations,—a fact very rarely paralleled in the records of the agriculture of this country.

Produce.

The average amount of gross produce yearly raised from the arable land may be nearly	L. 8438	0	0
The average return of grain crops being, wheat, 26 bushels per imperial acre; barley, 36 do.; oats, 36 do.; pease, 24 do.			
From sheep,	6215	0	0
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	L. 14,653	0	0

The value of the produce of cattle and horses is included, as pasture, turnips, hay; and those are all valued per acre.

Manufactures.—A large building for a woollen manufactory was erected about forty years ago by a Mr Brodie, a native of Traquair. He carried on the works at his own risk for several years. At his death the manufactory was let, and has since been in the hands of several tenants. At present 50 people are employed in it, and 2500 stones of wool are wrought in it yearly. The people work ten hours a-day. Weavers are paid per week, 14s.; slubbers, 14s.; piecers, 3s.; shawl-plaiters, 4s.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town and Means of Communication.—Peebles is the

* It seems now to be fully ascertained that fine wool cannot be raised in this country with profit—fat mutton and fine wool in successive generations of sheep appearing to be incompatible with each other by some law of nature.

nearest market-town, and is distant about six miles. In the summer season there is a one-horse chaise daily, and two daily coaches from the parish to Edinburgh.

The length of the toll-road down the Tweed is ten miles; and from Tweed to the source of the Leithen, is above nine miles. In summer, there is a daily conveyance to and from Glasgow and Kelso, which passes through the village.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church could not well be better situate for the convenience of the whole parish. It is a neat small building, containing seats for above 350 people. It was built in 1786, and is in comfortable repair. The manse was built about 1780. The glebe consists of 12 imperial acres, and is worth about L. 20 of yearly rent. The stipend is 15 chalders, half meal and half barley, and L. 100 Scots for communion elements, having been augmented in the year 1821.* Its average amount for the last seven years has been, exclusive of the allowance for communion elements, L. 234, 6s. The average number of communicants is about 264.

The dissenters in this parish are very few: fewer perhaps than in any parish of the same size in this part of the country.

Education.—There is no school but one in the parish. It is parochial. The schoolmaster employs an assistant, and teaches the ordinary branches and Latin. His salary is the maximum. The school wages are, for reading English, per quarter, 2s. 6d.; for writing, arithmetic, &c. 3s. 6d.; for Latin, 5s: but the actual amount received will probably not exceed L. 40. There are no persons in the parish above ten years of age who cannot read and write.

Library.—There is a circulating library in the parish, and a reading-room attached to it.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society was instituted in 1808 by the influence of the late Mr Nicol, minister of Traquair, and on such sound principles, that its funds have been gradually increasing. There are 100 members.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The collections in the church average about L. 21, 10s. a-year, and the assessment upon the heritors and tenants amounts to about L. 80. The number of poor is 13, and the average allowance to each 2s. 2d. per week, besides house rent to several of them, and L. 5 for medical advice. The people have not now the same aversion as formerly to seek relief from those funds.

* The stipend was augmented in 1821; but unexpectedly not in the same ratio as that of the minister of Traquair,—which was augmented about the same time.

Inns.—There are three inns in the village ; two of them large and commodious,—each having an ordinary or public table during the spring and summer seasons.

Fuel.—Except among the shepherds living in the heads of the *hopes* and *glens*, who use peats, the fuel chiefly depended upon by the inhabitants is coal from Lothian. The nearest is 16 miles distant. But a new road up the Leithen is now making, and will be completed next summer ; by which the conveyance of coal will be facilitated, and the expense diminished.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Plantations of spruce and Scottish fir in the uplands, for enclosures to the sheep, would be a great improvement.

There is no soil in the parish so fitted for becoming rich pasture as the haughs in the valley of the Tweed. But instead of *water-dikes*, as they are called, reared sometimes at great expense along the margin of the stream, perhaps it were better that every obstruction was removed from the river while in flood, and the muddy waters encouraged to float over and top-dress these lands when laid into pasture. Experience has often shown, that no process of manuring is so cheap and so enriching. Besides, this would enable the proprietor or tenant to bestow his attention and manure upon the accessible slopes of the hills, which, in course of time, it may be found worth while to cultivate.

March 1834.

PARISH OF TRAQUAIR.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES CAMPBELL, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THIS parish lies on the south bank of the river Tweed, and on the eastern border of the county of Peebles, where it unites with the county of Selkirk. The ancient name of the parish, or rather perhaps of the church, was St. Bryde's; hence it is supposed to have been erected by the Douglasses of Blackhouse, in the neighbouring parish of Yarrow, and dedicated by them to their family saint. In 1674, the church and parish of Kailzie, (*Anglice*, the wood,) formerly spelled and still vulgarly pronounced Keila, was, through the instrumentality of the noble family of Traquair, who were the patrons of that parish, and of the Archbishop of Glasgow, in whose diocese Traquair lay, in spite of the strong opposition of the presbytery, and to the manifest disadvantage of the parish, suppressed; and about two-thirds of it, namely, all that lay south of the Tweed, were annexed to the church of St. Bryde's,—thus forming the present parish of Traquair. From two charters granted to the monks of Melrose, one by David I. and the other by Malcolm, both kings of Scotland, it would appear, that “all the fruits, and pasture, and timber of the forest of Traquair” were assigned, among many others, for the support of that splendid and princely establishment. The word is variously spelled, *Traquar** and *Trackwhare*,† and is considered to be a contraction for Strath or Track Quair; meaning, according to one, Sheep Strath; to others, the Strath of the Herons: and to a third, the Strath of the Winding Burn.‡ It must be allowed, however, that the strath, if it deserves the name, is very narrow; although, when viewed from

* “In a charter by Robert Duke of Albany, in favour of William Watson, son to William Watson of Cranston, containing a grant of the lands of Traquair, &c. dated at Edinburgh anno 1409, it is spelt Traquar.”—Old Statistical Account.

† In the records of the Court of Justiciary, of date 25th June 1557, as quoted by Sir Walter Scott in his notes to the Lay of the Last Minstrel, we find “Alexander Stuart, uncle to the Laird of Trakwhare.”

‡ Winding Burn.—See Chalmers' Caledonia, article Traquair.

a distance, and particularly from a station on the northern bank of the Tweed, it has the appearance of a considerable valley,—the hills rising very gradually, in comparison with the neighbouring mountains, from the mouth of the Quair along its banks, as far as visible from the station indicated; and it may be taken as a pretty strong corroboration of this meaning of the prefix *Tra*, that farther up the stream, where the strath is much narrower, it is there called The Glen.

The greatest length of the parish in a straight line from east to west is probably not quite eight miles, and its greatest breadth, being from north-east to south-west along the banks of the Quair, scarcely amounts to five miles. It is divided from the parish of Innerleithen on the north by the river Tweed; it marches with the parish of Peebles on the west for about a mile; and on every other side is bounded by the parish of Yarrow or the Forest in Selkirkshire. One narrow stripe of that parish and county, indeed, completely divides the ancient parish of Kailzie from that of Traquair. Another point of it comes within 200 yards of the church, stretching into the very centre of the parish, and reaching within a mile of the Tweed, its northern boundary; and a third point of the same parish very nearly cuts off the eastern wing of Traquair from its centre. On this account, the figure of the parish is wholly undefinable, and its extent in square miles not easily computed. According to Armstrong, it contains 17,290 acres, and may therefore extend to nearly 30 square miles.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface of the parish is generally mountainous; and being situated on the south bank of the Tweed, and its boundaries on every other side being almost invariably the highest ridge of these mountains, it consequently slopes downwards towards that river, and faces the north; hence arises in some measure the heathy and dark colour of its surface. The valleys on the banks of the Tweed are not very extensive, and vary in elevation above the level of the sea from nearly 400 to about 500 feet. The hills in general are steep and lumpish, but not rocky or precipitous, thus affording a dry and sound, but bare sheep-pasture; wholly divested of caves or caverns, or any thing approaching to the wild or the picturesque, if we except Glendean's banks, "truly a frightful chasm," extending probably three quarters of a mile in length, and rising on either hand in noble precipices several hundred feet in elevation. Minchmoor is described as being "a large and spreading mountain 2285 feet above the sea's flow;" and

Gumscleugh, one of the stations of the trigonometrical survey of Britain, is considered 200 feet higher. Both these mountains, Minchmoor, lying east, and Gumscleugh west of the church, are nearly equally divided between Traquair and Yarrow, the highest ridge, or “the shed of the waters,” being the line of division between the parishes. The church is generally said to be on the same level as the cross of Peebles, or about 500 feet in elevation.

Meteorology.—As no regular accounts of the meteorology of this district have ever been kept, that point must be passed over with the remark, that the air of this parish is pure and keen, and hence very destructive to those subject to pulmonary complaints. It is, however, not very damp,—the higher mountains to the south and west, from whence the more prevailing and boisterous winds blow, sheltering it at once from their severity, and from those deluges of rain which fall, especially in more westerly districts. Still, from the generally impervious nature of the subsoil, the damp arising from evaporation is considerable. It may also be stated, that as the old parish of St. Bryde’s, or, as the strath towards the mouth of the Quair is more familiarly termed, “the parishen,” lies embosomed among hills, it is equally free in general from the piercing cold and fogs of the easterly winds. The same remark applies equally to both the other divisions of the parish to the east and west, and confirms generally an observation which has been made on this district, that the *ends* of the mountains point towards the Tweed, and their *sides* extend inland, if we may so express it, along the banks of the burns and waters that are its tributaries. Hence the appearance which all travellers notice in passing along the banks of that river in this district of Tweeddale, of its being almost continually land-locked; hence, too, the extreme dimensions of the parish in a straight line give no adequate idea of the real distance of its boundaries to the traveller; and hence, finally, the generally snug situation of its farm-houses and hamlets, in the bosom of the straths or dells of its mountain streams, which fall in pretty nearly at right angles to the Tweed. Only two or three of the farm-houses of this parish stand on the promontory or end of the hills, and thus form as it were the connecting link between the contiguous straths.

Hydrography.—This parish is remarkably devoid of any thing interesting under the head of hydrography. There is not a lake or cascade in its whole extent. It does not possess a single spring of any celebrity, if St. Bryde’s Well, in the glebe, the Cheese

Well, on Minchmoor, and the Lady's Well, (our Lady's Well?) on the estate of Kailzie, be excepted; the waters of all which are pure and limpid, and equally fitted for household purposes. Why the first received the name, or was put under the protection of a saint, is not known, unless it was, that, being near the church, and on the side of a public road, the weary traveller, and the church-going population, might be reminded, on quenching their thirst at its fountain, of that "fountain which has been opened in Israel," and of that "stream that maketh glad the city of our God." *

Streams.—This parish is watered by some ten or a dozen streams, of which the Quair is the only one dignified by the name of The Water, as it alone has any thing like tributaries. Its whole course, however, is not above six miles; but in that course it receives the waters of five or six small streams, two of which, namely, Glengaber or Fingland, and Glenlude, or New-halls burns, are each of them nearly equal to itself in size and length of course. Kirkburn waters, the ancient parish of Kailzie, and the Bold and Plora burns have their source near the Cheese Well, and flow into the Tweed towards the eastern boundary of the parish. Fan (Fawn?) burn, or, according to Dr Pennecuik, Taf-burn, divides in one part the parishes of Yarrow and Kailzie.

Geology.—The most common rocks found in the parish are those generally called *whin* (greywacke;) some of a finer, and others of a coarser grain. A considerable quantity of slate also occurs; but only one small quarry of it is wrought, and it is now found to bear so ill the changes of the weather, that even the noble proprietor of it frequently uses slate from Wales for the purpose of roofing. A dike or vein of porphyry crosses the ridges of some of the hills in this and the neighbouring parishes, and is highly esteemed for the curling-stones which it affords. Of the different ores mentioned in the former Statistical Account, no traces are now found; and it is supposed by many that they had been brought hither either by the workmen employed, or that they were the remnants of ore that had been carried to this quarter to be smelted in the then "forest of Traquair." At all events, "the mines" have long been forsaken as worse than unprofitable.

Zoology.—In the department of zoology, this parish appears to be rather more distinguished for the want of some species of the

* It is said that the Cheese Well was so named from the circumstance of the passengers dropping into it a bit of cheese for the use of the fairies.

more common animals, than for its possession of those that are more rare. “The largest kind of raven, and the true hunting hawk, still annually hatch their young in Glendean’s banks;” but the common magpie, and the far more interesting laverock or lark, are exceedingly scarce. The present writer has not observed above two or three pairs of the former in the space of thirteen years; and has not been regaled above once or twice in the same time with the song of the latter.

Botany.—The knout or cloud-berry is said to be the only plant at all rare observed in the parish. Our forests have disappeared, but the present proprietors are anxiously endeavouring to restore them in the form of plantations. Almost every sort of fir and of forest timber has been planted; but it would appear as if, of the latter, the ash and beech, and, perhaps, the elm and plane, are the most congenial to the soil and climate. A few very favourable specimens of all these are now growing in the churchyard and immediate neighbourhood; and there is, at least, one very fine tree of the silver fir species, in the grounds of Traquair House. “The bush aboon Traquair” is now reduced to four miserable birch trees; and such are the chances and changes of the times, that the field in which they grow,—the once famed scene of love and poetry,—is now very generally termed *the hospital*, from the circumstance of its having been reserved, at one time, as the field into which the ailing of the flock and of the herd were driven for pasture.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—“Mr Borthwick, in his Feudal Dignities, mentions Sarah of the Glen, Peebles-shire, amongst the ladies who swore allegiance to Edward I. of England in 1296.” Tradition affirms that Captain Porteous, so celebrated for giving the name to the mob in Edinburgh in 1736, was born at Easter Glen, in this parish. *

Traquair House was the first place where the famous Marquis of Montrose rested the night after the battle of Philiphaugh. Hume the historian affirms that he had reason to expect the assistance of the then Earl of Traquair; and tradition adds, that his Lordship mounted, on the morning of the day of the battle, the 13th September 1645,—his blacksmith carrying a bag of gold for the use of the Marquis. In the meantime, before they reached the

* It is said that Porteous, when a boy, having killed the favourite hen of an old woman who then resided on the neighbouring farm of Fethan, she, in her wrath, “wished that there might be as many folk at his death as there were feathers on her poor chucky.”

camp, the battle was fought, and on descending Minchmoor into the lovely vale of Yarrow, they met the dragoons flying in all directions. Instead of taking the direct route back, they were forced, along with the crowd, up the banks of the stream, and on passing the farm or castle of Tinnis, the blacksmith threw the bag of gold into the draw-well of the place. Often has the well been searched for the treasure, but as often in vain.*

Maps, &c.—It is believed that each landed proprietor in the parish has a separate map and plan of his own estate. A few paintings, and, we doubt not, many private documents, connected more especially with the history of the family, and of the Lord Treasurer of Scotland in particular, are to be found in the possession of the noble family of Traquair.

Eminent Characters.—This Lord Treasurer, and Commissioner to the General Assembly of the Church of Scotland in 1639, is certainly the most eminent character connected with this parish; but as his life has long become matter of general history, it would be useless to do more than simply allude to it here. It may be added as a circumstance of merely local interest, that he cut a new course for the river Tweed for nearly two miles, to carry it away from under the battlements of his castle.

Mr Brodie, ironmaster, late of Carey Street, London, of Calcut, in the county of Salop, and of Temple Bar, in this county, of whom honourable mention is made in the former Statistical Account, was a native of this parish. When he left Scotland, unlike most Scotsmen, he was very ill educated, and to his latest day could with difficulty sign his own name. He had only his “har’st fee,” amounting to 17s. 6d. in his pocket, and the rudiments of his trade as blacksmith, with which to begin the world; but by his own genius, or, as some pretend, by purchasing from an Italian the plan of register-stoves, he accumulated a fortune of nearly half a million. The only monuments of him now remaining in the parish are a

* Such traditions, however, are not always nor altogether void of foundation, as will appear from the following anecdotes: When the author of that most lovely of almost all modern pastorals, “Lucy’s Flitten,”—a song, the locality of which is feignedly fixed at the Glen,—was beginning his extensive improvements on the farm of Traquair-know, which he then rented, he set about draining a moss into which it was said large quantities of silver plate had been thrown, which belonged to persons who had died of the plague. During the operation, some half dozen *prater* plates of no great value were found; and a pint stoup of a form and a quality of that metal so rich, that a tinker to whom it was sold, some years afterwards returned very anxiously inquiring for more of the same kind. Another tradition, said to be found in the Scot’s Chronicles, says that there is a bull’s hide full of gold lying concealed some where between St. Bryde’s Well and Allasprain; and several coins have been found from time to time in that locality.

marble slab on the wall of the church, and a Bible which he presented to the pulpit in 1777. He was a man of great respectability of character, anxious to do good in his native place, and he did so while he lived; but, either from his own defective education, or from calculating too securely on a longer life, he did nothing to keep up his remembrance among us after his death. It ought in justice to be added, that it is said he offered to send cast iron to Leith, free of all expense, with which to erect a bridge across the Tweed in this neighbourhood, but the offer, for some reason, was not accepted.

Land-owners.—The only land-owners in the parish are his Grace the Duke of Buccleuch, who possesses a small part of only one farm; the Right Honourable the Earl of Traquair, to whom belong perhaps three-fourths of the whole parish; and Miss Williamson of Cardrona, Robert Nutter Campbell of Kailzie, and William Allan of the Glen, among whom the remainder is divided in portions nearly equal. The estates of Traquair and Cardrona have long been in the possession of the present families. That belonging to the Duke of Buccleuch was purchased from an old family of the name of Cassie, above forty years ago. The other two estates, till about the same period, were more frequently in the market. It is most devoutly to be wished, however, and there is no prospect to the contrary at present, that no change among these proprietors may take place for a long time, as justice compels the declaration, that heritors more anxious for the good of the parish and of their tenantry, in every sense of the word, cannot be found. Whatever is proposed to them for the comfort of the minister, the schoolmaster, or the poor, or for promoting the spiritual and temporal interests of the people at large, is cheerfully carried into effect, whatever may be the expense. A few years ago they allowed the then schoolmaster, who had held that office for nearly sixty years, to retire on his full salary, and provided an additional one of L. 30 for an assistant. They erected one of the neatest and most comfortable school-rooms in the neighbourhood, surrounding it with a shrubbery; they also erected coach-houses, stables, and private rooms for the accommodation of the church-going population; and when the present incumbent was entitled by law to apply for an augmentation of stipend, they appeared in Court pleading not against, but for the augmentation.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers reach back only to the Revolution; the Episcopalian clergyman, who was then de-

posed for drunkenness, and for acting as factor to a neighbouring proprietor, having refused to give up either them or the plate belonging to the church. They are exceedingly defective, especially for the last sixty years. With regard to mere sessional records, it seems now to be pretty generally allowed, that except in very aggravated cases, or in those which must be brought before higher courts, it hardly consists with that "charity which rejoiceth not in iniquity," to record the name of every one who may have been "overtaken in a fault," and thus to set him up for ever on the pillory, as it were, to the scorn and laughter of future generations. As to the other records of the session, many are not only unwilling but unable to pay for the registering of births or marriages, from which they may never derive any benefit; and certainly it would be harsh to compel the poor so to do, who have generally more than enough of indispensable outlay on such occasions.* In the records of this parish, however, there are two or three cases of some interest mentioned, as showing the state of the times in former ages, and especially after the revolution. There is the case of a woman in 1694 charged with having burnt the Bible, lest it should be a witness against her in the great day of accounts; another of a man in 1696 for having consulted "a wise man" in Carington parish, respecting some money which he said had been stolen from him; and in a stray paper found in the parish, there is a very serious but amusing account given of the settlement of a minister in this parish before the restoration of patronage, by the interference of the principal heritor, a Catholic, with the elders who lived on his estate. And finally, a tradition is still prevalent, and it is confirmed in many points by the records of presbytery, of the miserable death of two women who had accused a minister of the parish of gross scandal, which induced him, though innocent, to give up his charge, that "the name of God and his doctrine might not be blasphemed."

It may not be out of place here to remark, that this district was not much harassed during the dreadful times of the Covenant. "A conventicle" was on one occasion held at the Glen, partly that the

* Would it not be sufficient for every purpose either of state or of the session, to have a law passed compelling all kirk-sessions to have every birth and baptism, marriage, death, and burial in their respective parishes, recorded by the session-clerk of the parish in which they take place, by a penalty to be recovered from the members of the kirk-session, by any person who can prove that he requested the record to be made, if not executed within one month or less after the time of such request being made: these records to be kept gratis, but a fee to be charged on every extract that is demanded?

Laird Veitch might have a child baptized by one of the ousted ministers, and that he had to remain "in hiding" for some time on this account. Tradition says that he spent his nights in his own house, and his days in a very small cave, scarcely sufficient to cover his person, where he was at last betrayed by the barking of a favourite dog that had followed him to the place of his concealment.

Antiquities.—The only antiquities worth mentioning are the camps referred to in the former Statistical Account, no longer, however, nor in the memory of the oldest inhabitant, ever called Chesters. The largest of these is above the present mansion-house of Cardrona, which word is said to mean "the camp or castle on the ridge," and certainly a name more appropriate to its situation could not have been invented. A very handsome Roman pot of bronze was a few years ago found in forming a drain on the lands of Kailzie, and a small battle-axe was picked up on the same estate. Both are now in the possession of its proprietor. In the summer of 1831, while workmen were employed in widening and levelling the public road leading towards Innerleithen, they discovered, in a gravel knoll, about three feet from the surface, a sepulchre or grave formed of flat stones, evidently of the same kind as are still found on the neighbouring Minchmoor, and containing an urn apparently composed of baked clay mingled with peat, filled with ashes or very fine mould. Another urn of the same materials was discovered a yard or two distant in the bare soil, but inverted and covering the fragments of human bones. The whole was destroyed before the present writer heard of it, and all he could pick up was a small piece of one of the urns, which, he was told, were nearly of the form of the common garden flower-pot, but partly figured on the exterior by heights and grooves in the way of a pine apple. It is said that another sepulchre of the very same kind was dug up near the same spot many years ago.

Modern Buildings.—In modern architecture there is nothing remarkable in the parish. Part of Traquair house is very ancient, but there is no record of its erection, (see Chalmers.) Two substantial mansion-houses have been built since the last Statistical Account was written,—one at Kailzie and the other at the Glen. The church and manse are both most comfortable. The school-room and schoolmaster's house are equally so; and the farm-houses in the parish are now all large, modern, respectable, and excellent habitations. Even the cottages are generally good of their kind.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of this parish in ancient times must have been much greater than at present, as the sites of several villages, on which not a vestige of a house now remains, are still pointed out. In the records of the presbytery of Peebles, too, under date the 5th August 1674, the number of communicants in the several parishes of the presbytery is mentioned as the proportion by which these parishes were to contribute to the support of a bursar. In this record, Traquair is said to have had 360, and Kailzie, 100 ; two-thirds of which latter number now falling to be added to Traquair, would make the number of communicants in this parish about 430, whereas now they do not amount to one-half of this number. Even deducting, then, for the number who have dissented from the church since those days, the population must have been not much less than double of what it is now. It has again, however, increased considerably since the date of the last Statistical Account, if there was no mistake in the enumeration there given,—partly owing to the regular residence of the families of Traquair and Kailzie, but principally to the universal introduction of the turnip husbandry. The following table will show the amount of the population at different times, as nearly as can be made up :

In 1674,	-	1000
In 1755,	-	651
In 1794,	-	446
In 1801,*	-	613
In 1811,	-	621
In 1821,	-	643
In 1831,	-	629

In this parish, there is scarcely any thing deserving the name of a village. Excepting about twenty families of tradesmen and labourers, several of whom are bound to keep “bondagers” for their houses, the population is wholly rural, and live around the farm-steadings to which they are respectively attached.

For the last seven years, the yearly average of births does not exceed 20 ; of deaths, 9 ; and of marriages, 6 individuals.

The number of families in the parish is 108, whereof 68 are chiefly employed in agriculture, and 20 in trade, manufactures, and handicraft.

There are no blind, deaf, or dumb persons in the parish ; 1 idiot ; 1 slightly fatuous ; and 1 or 2 that may be termed insane.

The Earl of Traquair, and his sister, Lady Louisa Stuart, are

* In the Government census of 1831, the population is given at 643, but in the official return the names of 14 persons were included who were only residents at the time, and not parishioners.

the only noble persons residing in the parish. Besides the heritors, Robert Nutter Campbell of Kailzie, Esq., William Allan of the Glen, and Captain James Ker of the Honourable East India Company's Service, heir-apparent to Cardrona, there are no other individuals or families in independent circumstances resident among us.

Character and Habits of the People.—On this point we have no peculiarity to notice, except, perhaps, that our people have scarcely yet learned to accommodate themselves to the great change of the times since the close of the late war. There are not awanting families among us, however, whose tables are covered with a plentiful though homely fare, and whose children are never so ill clad as to make their parents ashamed of bringing them up to the house of God. It must be admitted that all this requires an industry and an economy on the part of both parents, which must never be relaxed, and perhaps, too, a little saving before marriage to set the parties up without debt, which is but far too seldom the case in these days of luxury and of vanity. The late war, with all its expenses and bloodshed, was, perhaps, not so disastrous to the country by its loss of treasure and of life, as by the habits of living its fictitious prosperity has entailed upon all, both rich and poor. To the boundless prosperity of the late war, followed by the reduction of income after the peace, may be ascribed much of the distress, immorality, and irreligion of the present day. No doubt these changes have been felt less among a rural population than among the manufacturing classes, but still even among us their effects are obvious. Wages are not now so high in proportion to the *mode* of living, as they were during that war; employment is not so steady; and neither proprietors nor farmers in general so able to afford either as formerly. At the same time, the old thrifty habits of domestic industry and economy in families have been forgotten; by many, every thing is now bought with money,—the wheel being almost altogether laid aside, and nearly every article of raiment being now purchased instead of being made at home. The expensive articles of tea, coffee, and sugar, they can neither easily want nor easily procure. They become, therefore, liable to feelings of discontent, which have, it may be feared, injured the cause of true and vital godliness, and of brotherly kindness and charity in the hearts of many; for while justice demands the admission that our people are generally intelligent, generous, and respectable in their station, it is doubtful if we can

add that they are equally religious. Poaching in salmon in close-time is much practised, having been long winked at by the landholders, from the very small numbers of fish that find their way up the river at any other season.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

The quantity of land in the parish under cultivation is fully	3000 imperial acres.
Never cultivated,	14000
That might be cultivated with a profitable application of capital,	0
In undivided common,	0
Under wood, planted,	600

Rent of Land.—Arable land rents at from 12s. to L. 3 per acre; the average being probably about 17s. The rent of grazing an ox or cow may be about L. 3; and that of a ewe or full-grown sheep, 5s.

The average real rental of the parish may be as under :

3000 acres under cultivation, at 17s.	-	-	-	L. 2550	0	0
6000 hill sheep, at 5s.	-	-	-	1500	0	0
900 sheep fed in parks, at 10s.	-	-	-	450	0	0
				<hr/>		
				L. 4500	0	0

Prices of Labour, and Implements of Husbandry.—The rate of ploughmen's wages per annum varies from L. 9 to L. 10, 10s. When married, and not living in the farm-house, they have as an allowance for bed and board, a dwelling-house, provision for a cow throughout the year, 52 stones (old weight) of oatmeal, one-half boll of seed-potatoes planted, and four cart loads of coals, about 64 cwt. driven,—they paying the coals at the pit, and the tolls on the road. The wages of women-servants connected with the farms may be stated at L. 4 in summer, and at L. 2 in winter.

Enclosing and draining are now generally set by the piece; 7s. per rood, of six yards, being considered a fair price for finishing dry stone dikes; and 8d. per rood for cutting drains three feet deep, the farmer in general filling them up with stones, and covering them in by his own servants.

The average rate of mason and carpenters' wages is probably about 15s. per week in summer, and perhaps 12s. in winter.

An excellent wooden plough, full mounted, may be made in the parish for L. 2, 10s., and a pair of harrows for L. 1, 8s. A close-bodied single-horse cart may cost L. 9; and other articles in proportion to the work employed on them. Excellent sheep-flakes of larch may be had for 2s. each.

The iron plough has now become very common, and may cost from L. 3 to L. 4, 15s.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—Considerable attention has been paid to the breed of cattle, sheep, and farm-horses. The cattle reared in the parish are generally of the Teeswater or short-horn kind,—sometimes crossed by the Ayrshire. Many now, however, buy their cattle, consisting both of the above breed, and of Highlanders, for feeding, rather than submit to the toil, risk, and expense of rearing them. Probably 130 are fed off for the market every year. They may average perhaps 44 stones, of 14lb. each.

The sheep stock is now almost exclusively of the Cheviot breed. They are not large, weighing perhaps on an average about 12lbs. per quarter when fat. Of these probably 1200 are fed off on turnips annually; while 500 *grit* ewes are sold in spring; 2300 lambs in autumn; and still later in the season 300 full-grown sheep fed off on grass.

The quantity of wool sold per annum may average about 230 cwt.

Husbandry.—On the whole it is not doubted but that the state of husbandry and improvement, from the duration of leases, (generally averaging nineteen years,) the excellent state of farm-buildings and enclosures, the abundance of capital, and the encouragement of landlords, has advanced, in this district, nearly to its *ultimatum*. The distance from lime and coal being from twenty to twenty-four miles, and the great elevation above the sea, added to the light nature of the soil itself, prevent the hope of much farther improvement.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish may probably be nearly as follows:

Grain of all kinds, 6000 bolls at L. 1,	-	-	L. 6000	0	0
Potatoes and turnips,	-	-	1300	0	0
Hay, partly meadow by irrigation, and partly cultivated,	-	-	450	0	0
Pasture, at the rates above-mentioned,	-	-	3500	0	0

L. 11,250 0 0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town and Means of Communication.—The nearest market-town is Peebles, at the distance of from three to ten miles from the different boundaries of the parish, or about seven from the parish church. This is also the post-town for the western district, while Innerleithen daily penny-post serves the centre and eastern division of the parish. The length of the turnpike roads in the parish is fifteen miles; but as this parish is not a thoroughfare,

and the population scanty, no mail or stage-coaches travel in it. The turnpike roads are now much improved—the bridges over the different burns are good—and the timber bridge lately erected over the Tweed on the new line of road to Innerleithen and Edinburgh, by the patriotic exertions of the landholders in this and the neighbouring parish, has been a public benefit.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated as nearly as possible in the very centre of the parish, as to its territorial boundaries, but fully a mile from the centre of the great mass of the population. Owing to the mountainous character of the parish, the public roads must invariably follow the course of its streams. Hence one line, leading from Peebles, runs along the banks of the Tweed from west to east for about twelve miles within the parish, and another of about three runs from north to south along the banks of the Quair and one of its tributaries. On this road the church stands, about six, five, and two miles from the different ends of the parish. The inhabitants on the estate of Kailzie, amounting nearly to a sixth part of the whole population of the parish, finding themselves on an average not much above three miles from Peebles, and six from their parish church, regularly go to Peebles to worship, either with the Establishment, if they can find seats, or, if not, among the dissenters; and consequently, by the annexation of that part of the parish of Kailzie to Traquair, instead, as it ought to have been, to Peebles, if it was to be suppressed at all, a very large addition has been almost necessarily made to the ranks of the secession. Above all, the distance of the church from the centre of the great mass of the population is but too good an apology for its being seldom visited by children.

There is, however, little chance of a change in the situation of the church, as it was built only in 1778, and floored with wood, and furnished with stoves, and made as comfortable as possible a few years ago. It is in excellent repair, fully capable of accommodating the half of the population, and every seat in it free, although of course appropriated to the several farms into which the parish is divided.

The manse was built in 1793 or 1794, and received a large addition, and very extensive repairs in 1814.

The glebe measures about 12 imperial acres, and might let for about L. 20 per annum. The stipend, modified in 1821, is 17 chalders, half meal and half barley, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. of commun-

ion elements. The average amount of stipend, converted to money, for the last seven years, is L. 265, 11s.

The only place of worship in the parish besides the Established church is the private Roman Catholic chapel at Traquair House, which is under the bishop resident in Edinburgh.

Probably three-fourths of the families in the parish are connected with the Established church; and the remaining fourth, after deducting five families of Roman Catholics, numbering thirty souls, belong to the United Secession and Relief bodies. A small proportion of these are natives. The Catholics consist of two Scotch families, two Irish, and one French. It deserves to be noted here, that although the children of Roman Catholics read the word of God, in the "Protestant version, and in a daily Bible class," nay, although most of them learn our catechisms, either voluntarily, or by hearing them repeated by others, yet, in the memory of man, there has not been one conversion from Catholicism in this parish.

Considering the distance of many of our people from their respective places of worship, we have pleasure in saying, that their attendance is generally good. The average number of communicants is rather under 200. In this part of the country almost every person as soon as he comes to a proper age, is most anxious to become a communicant.

Collections are now annually made in the church for religious purposes, but principally for the General Assembly's Highland schools, and Indian missions. The probable average amount of such collections may be about L. 10 yearly.

Education.—There is only one school* in this parish, namely, the parochial. For the last sixty years, at least, no other branches of education could be learned in it besides reading, writing, and accounts. Whether the taste for any thing superior to these, now that they have the opportunity of acquiring it, may arise, time will show. There are perhaps not two individuals in the parish above the years of infancy, who cannot at least read; were this otherwise, the people would be utterly inexcusable, seeing that the school fees are so small, being for reading, 2s.; for reading and writing, 2s. 6d.; and for both, with accounts, 3s. per quarter; and seeing also that these fees are always paid out of the poors' fund for those who declare themselves unable to pay. We need scarcely add,

* Of late, a sewing-school has been opened at Cardrona.

after what has been said of the liberality of our heritors, that the salary is the maximum ; and the parochial teacher has fully double the legal accommodations. The school-fees may amount perhaps on an average to L. 25 per annum. Owing to the great length of the parish in proportion to its breadth, many of the children can scarcely be expected to attend regularly, except perhaps for a short time in summer. Those in its western division find accommodation in the schools of Peebles ; while a few families on its eastern borders are more destitute.

A few years ago a small school library was founded in the parish ; at first it seemed to be very popular, but now it is very much neglected. The same thing may be said of a Sabbath evening school, or lecture, established principally for young people after having left school and gone to service, as also for the aged and infirm, and mothers of infant children, who could not attend church in the forenoon, but which, owing to the gradual decay of attendance, has, in the meantime, been discontinued.

Popular lectures on some of the more simple parts of science were delivered gratis in the school-room two winters ago, and called forth a very crowded audience. They may perhaps be resumed occasionally hereafter.

Friendly Societies.—Many of our people are connected with several of these, especially in Peebles ; and there is the Innerleithen and Traquair society of this kind, the funds of which are well managed ; and the society is well supported. Some of the labouring classes, when unable to work from sickness, are entitled, we believe, to as much as 9s. a-week from these societies ; but it has been noticed by some, that many of the members of such societies very seldom put any thing into the poors' box on Sunday. We must add, however, that we are not aware that almost any of them have come upon the poors' roll, except perhaps when rendered totally unable to work, by accident or by old age, and when the weekly emoluments furnished by such societies become very small ; these becoming less and less the longer the members continue unfit for work.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving regular parochial aid is 18. At present the number is 25. They consist of 1 widower, and an old man unmarried ; 6 widows, one of them having three children, and one old woman unmarried ; 1 family, consisting of both parents and three child-

ren; and 8 orphans and illegitimate children, deserted by one or both parents. On an average, the old people receive for house rent, medical attendance, and maintenance, 2s. 6d. per week, or L. 6, 10s. per annum; and the children about half of this sum, exclusive of the expense of their education, which has amounted for some years past, along with that of others not on the poor's roll, to nearly L. 10 per annum.

The funds by which this expense is defrayed consist of four different kinds. *1st*, Interest of mortified money, amounting to about L. 8. *2d*, Collections in the church, averaging about L. 18. *3d*, A voluntary offering made by the heritors for fully fifty years past, and instituted long before any regular assessment was imposed, of L. 6. And *4th*, An assessment borne in equal parts by both heritors and tenants of land. We do not take into account church dues, arising from the use of mortcloths, for these are very seldom paid; and no fines for church censures are ever exacted. The regular assessment has been in operation since the beginning of the present century, and was commenced during the great scarcity and dearth of these days. For the last fifteen years it has amounted to L. 77 per annum on an average, so that not less than L. 100 or L. 110 a-year are regularly spent in this parish on the support of the poor; altogether exclusive of the private charity of families in this parish, and of individuals connected with it. The effect of the assessments is undoubtedly to impair that old Scottish spirit which considered the seeking of parochial relief as degrading. It ought to be stated, that it is the labourers in the parish, not the artisans, ploughmen, or shepherds that expect a share of these charities; a proof of the advantage of having a fixed employment on which to depend for the means of subsistence.

Alehouses.—There are two inns or alehouses in “the parishen.” We cannot report that these have been sensibly injurious to the morals of the population.

Fuel.—The great scarcity and consequent expense of this article is the greatest disadvantage under which this parish lies. Till within these few years, coal from the county of Mid-Lothian cost here 1s. 6d. per cwt., or L. 1, 10s. per ton, a price which was attended with great distress to the poorer classes. By the new line of road now making in the county of Edinburgh, in continuation of that lately made from the Tweed along the banks of the Leithen,

it is believed that we shall not be above fifteen or sixteen miles from coal; and that what now costs here from 10d. to 14d. per cwt., will, on an average, be reduced fully below the lowest of these two prices.

Compression of Peat.—The time and attention required for the drying of peat has been the great objection to its more general use; and it is on this account chiefly that we consider the plan of compression lately introduced to the notice of the public as deserving of attention. The writer of this having made several experiments on the subject, feels confident in stating, that a very considerable quantity both of time and labour in the drying of peat may be saved by this process; but it appears to him, that, unless some simple, effectual, and speedy plan of withdrawing the peat from the box after being compressed be employed, the value of the plan of compression will be, as to economy, almost completely neutralized. On this point he would simply throw out the following hints: 1st, The principle of the corking-machine, by which a perfectly perpendicular movement is communicated through the lever to the piston, or lid of the box in which the peat is to be compressed, is indispensable. 2d, The box itself ought to be firmly fixed to the platform on which it rests; and, 3d, a false bottom (perforated, of course, like the real bottom of the box,) with an upright rod of iron attached to each end of it, so formed as to traverse (also perpendicularly) in a groove in each end of the lid or piston, with a knob at the top of each rod, by which, when the lever is raised up, after compression, the peat might be withdrawn from the box, and then with ease and expedition removed off this false bottom by the hands of the person who builds up the compressed peat in the small stacks or “rickles.” By this plan we think that two men, one to cut the peat, and the other to work the lever, with two, or at the most three women or boys to take the peat from the cutter, to place it carefully on the false bottom, to remove it when compressed, and to build it up in the heaps for drying, would be quite sufficient for the whole process; and in this way we should suppose that the expense of the compressed peat would not be more than double of its cutting in the common way; or when ready for carrying home, not more than that of common peat, because all the expense of “fitting” and “turn-fitting;” in a word, all the labour between cutting and carrying home is saved, and the whole work is done in one or more continuous days.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

Since the last Statistical Account was drawn up, the whole system of agriculture in the parish has been changed, improved, and extended. The old Scottish plough is now entirely laid aside, and four horses are probably never seen yoked together in the field. Instead of "a small quantity of turnips being raised," they form a regular rotation in every farm. Instead of "500 bolls of barley being exported," there is now at least double that quantity. Instead of the wheat being "nothing equal to the consumption," that consumption is not only immensely enlarged, but a considerable overplus for sale is left. Instead of the small coarse-woolled black-faced breed of sheep, we have now the Cheviot. Instead of one resident heritor, we have four. Preparations are now going on for a very considerable extension of the plantations on the estates of The Glen and Cardrona. Every farm-steading in the parish has probably been rebuilt in the interval. It only remains to add, that the first water-meadows in Scotland were formed in this parish. Some of them are still irrigated regularly, and we have heard one farmer allege that they would amply repay the original cost, were he compelled by wet seasons to cart the grass they produce directly to the dunghill.

Owing partly to the lightness of the soil, and partly to its having been so long in cultivation, the land in general is becoming exhausted. Much of it will no longer produce clover and rye-grass, (the only grasses, we believe, that have been attempted to be raised in this district,) so as to be a remunerating crop, and some farms seem also to have begun to weary of turnip; at all events, the disease known familiarly by the name of *fingers-and-toes* has shown itself more or less in some of our fields.

The writer would propose, in the first place, that there ought to be an understanding, at the commencement of every lease, that if the tenant cultivate his farm properly, and pay his rent duly, it shall be in his own option to continue in the farm so long as he does so, on a rise or fall of rent corresponding to the fiars prices and to the times; for it is known to every one, that, by the stimulus of lime, a tenant can "take every good quality out of the soil that is in it," by the termination of his lease, and yet not violate a single condition of the contract. Hence the desire the tenants all express that they should know whether they are to "flit" or not, even several years before the end of the lease.

Were this understanding to become general, the farmer would be encouraged to give full attention to the procuring of foreign manure to make up for the loss sustained by the grain raised not being consumed on the farm. This, it is believed, might be accomplished in a district such as this, by water-meadows, or simply by cutting, were it only for the dunghill, immense masses of ferns, heath, and above all “sprints,” which are allowed to grow up and rot on the hills, and which, at best, only increase annually the quantity of peat bog. With the sprints, and even with the ferns, if cut green and well salted, they might winter in the straw yard an additional number of cattle, and thus add both to their purse and their dunghill, without deducting a single comfort from their sheep; nay, adding many, in the sweetness and variety of the young and tender grasses that would spring up. And again, let an inch,—more or less,—of new mould, nay, even of “till,” be brought up at every rotation of turnip fallow, and well incorporated with the now rich old soil, and we venture to say, that the productive quality of our fields will again return, and will soon repay all the additional benefit that had been heaped upon them.

April 1834.

PARISH OF TWEEDSMUIR.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. GEORGE BURNS, D. D. MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name, Boundaries, &c.—THIS parish having originally been attached to that of Drummelzier, appears to have been formerly called Over-Drummelzier. As to the origin of its present name, which it has had at least since the year 1643, when it was erected into a new parish, it is only necessary to state, that the Tweed has its rise in this parish, and that a considerable proportion of the country, particularly beside the source of the river, is in a remarkable degree distinguished by the bleakness and moorishness of its aspect. The mean length and breadth of the parish are nearly equal, and are not less than eight miles. It is thirty miles in circumference, and has been calculated to contain sixty-four square miles, or about 33,380 Scotch acres. But if allowance be made for the vast inequalities of ground, the extent may be fairly estimated as at least two-thirds more.

The parish is bounded on the south by Moffat; on the east by Megget; on the west by Crawford; and on the north by Drummelzier. It is situated in the midst of that vast range of mountains which stretches into Scotland from Northumberland, advances to the head of Lanarkshire, passing through Selkirkshire and the northern boundary of Dumfries-shire, and terminates in the county of Ayr, thus forming a chain of connection between the east and west counties of the south of Scotland.

Topographical Appearances.—The highest hills in the parish are Broadlaw on the north, and that part of Hartfell or Hartfield on the south, which comprehends its highest point of elevation. By an accurate calculation, made by order of Government, Broadlaw was found to be 2741 feet above the sea level at low water, and Hartfell 2635, the former being the highest hill south of the Forth. From the summit of Broadlaw a prospect opens extensive and magnificent in the highest degree; for, while the eye passes over

mountain after mountain in apparently endless succession, like waves of a tumultuous sea, it rests not till it reaches the English border and the German ocean. It is worthy of remark, as regards this and most of the other hills in the parish, that they are of comparatively easy ascent, and are flat as attic plains on the top. Many of the inhabitants of the parish are supplied with excellent peat from these lofty regions, which is brought down in common carts, drawn by horses with comparative ease and safety. And, what constitutes at once the ornament and the value of these mountains, is, that they are clothed in the finest verdure, even to the top, and produce an herbage so luxuriant in summer, as to admit of being mowed to an indefinite extent. The pasture which they afford for sheep and black-cattle is of the richest and most nutritious quality; in proof of which, there is no part of this or any other country that produces flocks more healthy, or in higher repute in the English market. It may also be remarked, that these mountains have none of that Alpine boldness of contour by which the Grampians and most other hills of Caledonia are distinguished. The flats and morasses of this district are comparatively few and inconsiderable.

Meteorology.—It may be remarked under this head, that no material difference has been observed betwixt the weather here and at Edinburgh. Snow or rain in some instances has preceded that at Edinburgh by several hours; and in the case of a fall of snow which happened in November 1831, it was found that it fell to a greater depth in the immediate vicinity of the metropolis, than even in this elevated region. From the situation of these mountains in relation to the eastern and western seas, storms of snow and rain frequently spend their force before reaching them; and those who have lived long in the country give it as the result of their observation, that the sheep have seldom been denied their pasture for any length of time, in consequence of the depth or long continuance of the snow; and that the loss of sheep or lambs from the severity of the weather has at no time been very considerable. The average quantity of rain that falls annually throughout the county does not exceed twenty-eight inches; and hence it may be inferred that though showers are more frequent, yet that the actual quantum is not so great as in those counties which lie east and west of Tweeddale. A book of meteorological observations, kept by the late schoolmaster of this parish for several years previous to his death, exhibits the following results.

Mean temperature of the different seasons at Tweedsmuir, from 1821 to 1828, inclusive, reckoning March, April, and May, the months of spring; June, July, and August, those of summer; September, October, and November, those of autumn; and December, January, and February, those of Winter.

	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.	Winter.
1821, -	42°.973	54°.616	46°.780	35°.980
1822, -	45°.183	56°.940	45°.406	38°.333
1823, -	42°.796	52°.253	44°.886	32°.990
1824, -	40°.193	54°.120	43°.716	36°.730
1825, -	41°.966	55°.680	45°.070	35°.546
1826, -	43°.220	58°.180	43°.266	34°.516
1827, -	42°.256	53°.873	46°.246	34°.090
1828, -	42°.980	54°.746	45°.570	37°.953

Mean annual temperature of a constant spring, and of the air at Tweedsmuir, from 1821 to 1828, inclusive.

	Constant Spring.	Air in the Shade.
1821, -	45°.711	- 45°.300
1822, -	45°.866	- 46°.129
1823, -	44°.743	- 43°.436
1824, -	45°.055	- 43°.565
1825, -	45°.291	- 44°.494
1826, -	45°.565	- 45°.212
1827, -	44°.896	- 44°.179
1828, -	45°.195	- 45°.316

MONTHLY MEAN TEMPERATURE.

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1821	36°.02	35°.94	38°.86	45°.70	44°.36	51°.47	55°.02	57°.36	53°.99	46°.61	39°.74	38°.54
1822	38°.00	38°.46	41°.12	44°.00	50°.43	58°.77	56°.32	55°.73	48°.30	40°.02	41°.90	34°.50
1823	31°.75	32°.72	37°.33	40°.77	50°.29	50°.00	53°.74	53°.02	49°.97	42°.72	41°.97	36°.96
1824	36°.77	36°.46	34°.14	40°.11	46°.33	53°.20	55°.51	53°.59	50°.41	42°.29	38°.45	35°.47
1825	35°.57	35°.60	36°.17	41°.97	47°.76	53°.01	57°.99	56°.04	53°.90	46°.38	34°.93	34°.61
1826	30°.15	38°.79	37°.49	43°.02	49°.15	59°.23	58°.39	56°.82	49°.76	45°.27	34°.77	39°.71
1827	32°.44	30°.12	35°.88	42°.37	48°.52	52°.82	55°.93	52°.87	51°.46	47°.39	39°.89	40°.46
1828	37°.36	36°.04	38°.96	41°.34	48°.64	54°.23	55°.86	54°.15	50°.56	44°.00	42°.15	40°.51

The prevailing winds in this quarter are S. and S. W. which most commonly bring rain, whereas snow is generally looked for from the N. and E.

Small-pox and measles are the only infectious diseases known here, and have never appeared unless when imported. There are no epidemic or prevailing distempers.

Within these few years, several persons have died at the advanced ages of from 90 to 95 years; and there are two individuals, a male and a female, at present enjoying vigorous old age at upwards of fourscore. The average of deaths in the parish itself, does not exceed three or four per annum; but as many persons are brought from other parishes for interment here, the number of burials in the course of a year is very considerable.

Hydrography.—*Tweed.*—A very insignificant well near Tweed-

shaws, at the upper extremity of the parish, gives rise to the far-famed river Tweed, which runs ten miles through the parish, in a north-westerly direction, and, after pursuing a beautiful meandering course for ninety miles farther, loses itself in the German Ocean at Berwick. The source of the Tweed is half a mile from Lanarkshire, on the west, and the same distance from Dumfriesshire on the south, and it is not a little remarkable, that from the base of one and the same hill, the three celebrated rivers, Tweed, Annan, and Clyde, take their rise. It may with truth be said, that though the origin of the Tweed be humble, it is not *lowly*, as the spring whence it flows is fully 1500 feet above the sea's level. Almost innumerable are the tributary streams in this parish which the Tweed begins to receive from within two miles of its source, and which cause it to swell and to amplify as it rolls along. These have the names of *waters* and *burns* applied to them according to their relative degrees of magnitude or importance. The Core, Fruid, and Tala, three waters in this parish, run into the Tweed from the south-east. The first rises on the lands of Earlshaugh, and, after running three miles, falls into the Tweed a mile below Tweedshaws. The second has its origin three miles east from the source of the Core, and, after a course of seven miles, joins the Tweed a mile above the church. The third originates in a small spring half a mile west from Loch Skeen, and descends from the hills seven or eight miles, when it loses itself in the Tweed below the church, where a good stone bridge has been erected. There are in this parish nine burns, marked by the following names, viz. Tweedhope, Glencraigie, Badlieu, Old Fingland, Menzion, Glenrisk, Moat, Harestone, and Polmood. These all run in a north-easterly direction to the Tweed, in which they empty themselves. The only other of any consequence is Gameshope *burn*, which joins Tala water four miles above the spot where it mingles with the main river. These different streams, great and small, have an abundant supply of trout, par, and eels; and in Tweed at spawning time, which commences about the end of autumn, salmon of considerable size often fall victims to the snares of the poacher, which are commonly the *light* and the *leister*. At the bridge over Tweed is Carlow's *Linn*, a small but interesting water-fall, formed by the rocky bottom over which the river here passes.

There is a lake in the parish worthy of notice, not on account of its extent, for it is only 586 yards in circumference, but as being, perhaps, the highest sheet of water in the south of Scot-

land. It is called Gameshope Loch, and abounds in excellent trout, though, on account of the dark and mossy hue of the water, they are of a black colour. From what has now been stated, it may be inferred that this parish affords opportunities for fishing such as are seldom to be met with. It is accordingly much resorted to in favourable seasons by the lovers of that sport from Edinburgh and other quarters.

Every *water*, and almost every *burn*, has its range of hills and its valley, with scenery more or less beautiful, romantic, and interesting. There is high ground on both sides of the main river, and towards the lower extremity of the parish, the spots of cultivation, and fringes of planting which adorn its banks and the adjacent hills, give the whole an inland appearance, and cannot fail to please the eye of the tasteful observer. Near the top of Broadlaw hill, there is a remarkably fine perennial spring called *Geddes's Well*, and from the Hartfell spa at the south skirt of that mountain, chalybeate waters are transported for the cure of many ulcerous disorders.

Geology and Mineralogy.—In this parish, nothing has yet been discovered to gratify the professed geologist or mineralogist. Greywacke and greywacke-slate (*whinstone* of the peasantry,) and some other lapideous strata belonging to the order of transition rocks, are to be found in abundance; but no *secondary strata* have been ascertained to exist, though, from the soft outline of these mountains, it might be supposed that sandstone could be found beneath the soil. It does not, however, appear that any attempt has been made by mining or otherwise to make geological discoveries or observations. In many places the soil is strong, being a thick mould formed of earth and moss. The arable parts of the parish present a soil in general of a light loam, with gravel and sandstone at the bottom.

Zoology.—The only rare animal that has been known to frequent this parish belongs to the feathered tribe, and is called *Erne*, or White-tailed Eagle, (the young bird, the Sea Eagle, or *Falco ossifragus*; the old bird, the White-tailed Eagle, the *Falco albicilla*,) which at one time used to hatch in an island in Loch Skeen, and to nestle among the clefts around Tala Linnfoots. So great were its ravages among the sheep, that every effort was made to extirpate it, and for many years past there has been reason to think that these efforts were successful. But in the course of the season just closed, it reappeared in the same as well as in

other parts of the parish, and committed several depredations. It had well nigh carried off a shepherd's boy, but fortunately it was discovered hovering over its destined victim, and driven away just before it had pounced upon its prey. Under this head it would be unpardonable to omit the *fidus Achates*, or shepherd's dog, whose docility, sagacity, and vast utility cannot be too highly appreciated. As occasion requires, and the shepherd issues the mandate, he either remains on permanent duty as a guard or watch over the flock when his master is necessarily engaged elsewhere, or he goes round the scattered sheep at a great distance and collects them, thus relieving the shepherd of the most arduous part of his labours, and accomplishing feats on these mountains which, without his dexterous management, could not perhaps be accomplished at all. Those of the true breed bring a high price, varying from L. 3 to L. 5, and even L. 6 Sterling.

Botany.—The earliest spring food for the sheep in this district is the plant bearing a white cotton head, vulgarly called moss-crop, *i. e.* bog cotton, the *Eriophorum polystachion* of Linnæus. To this it is thought Ossian refers when he thus describes a certain beautiful female; “If on the heath she moved, her breast was whiter than the down of Cana, &c.” It begins to spring about Candlemas in propitious seasons, and grows in mossy ground. Drawing, the *E. vaginatum* of Linnæus, succeeds it in March, and the sheep gently seize upon the part above ground. Heath is the last in order, and it being the practice to burn a part yearly, in order to secure a succession of it, the burnt or young part is first discernible.

Tradition as well as living authority informs us, that this country abounded in wood of a natural growth; but, partly through the cupidity of proprietors in turning their timber into cash, regardless of the interest of their successors, and the beauty of the country, and partly through the increasing demand for mutton and broad-cloth, the hills are now denuded of their trees, and almost wholly devoted to pasture for sheep. Some old ash trees still remain at Fruid and Hawkshaw, and it is found that larch, birch, Scotch and silver fir, and poplars, agree best with the climate and soil of this elevated region. It is unfortunate that leases are not long enough to encourage tenants to plant trees to any extent, but it is gratifying to be able to report that the Earl of Wemyss and Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, Bart. have not been altogether inattentive to this object. In the course of a few years, the young and

thriving plantations around the ousteads at Crook and Harestone, belonging to the former proprietor, and at Nether Menzion, belonging to the latter, cannot fail to add greatly to the beauty and comfort of the dwelling places.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts of the Parish.—Besides the former Statistical Account of the parish furnished to Sir John Sinclair by the Rev. J. Muschet, there is a more extended one in the Edinburgh Literary and Statistical Magazine. It is understood to have been written by the Rev. James Gardner, last minister of the parish.

Antiquities.—At the source of the Tweed, and where this parish borders on Annandale, there is a spot called *Tweeds-cross*, where stood one of those erections so frequently to be met with on public roads in this kingdom before the Reformation,—probably placed as devotional land-marks to guide travellers from one monastery to another. “Tweed’s cross is generally thought to have been a place of Druidical worship to the sun, and it is more than probable that it afterwards became a mark of direction on so precarious a pass, as well as a terminate point of division between the shires.” From its elevated site, 1632 feet above the level of the sea, it justly claims a pre-eminence over every other human erection of the kind in the south of Scotland.*

Near Earlsbaugh, in this vicinity, is a hill called the *Crown of Scotland*, for reasons now unknown.

On the right side of the road leading towards the Bield Inn, is the shepherd’s house of Badlieu, the property of Lord Forbes, and well known as the residence of Bertha, so celebrated for her beauty and her tragical fate. Grimus, King of Scotland, who had a hunting-seat at Polmood, was captivated by her charms, and the birth of a son was the consequence of an illicit connection between them. During the absence of the king, occasioned by an attempt on the part of the Danes to invade the northern frontiers of his kingdom, Bertha, her father, and her child were murdered by assassins employed by the queen. The queen did not long survive this act of barbarity. The king on his return caused the grave to be opened, and contemplated with mingled feelings of grief and horror the three mangled bodies. From that period he lost

* In the immediate neighbourhood of this cross, during a severe snow storm in February 1831, the guard and driver of the mail coach to Edinburgh were compelled to leave the coach, and attempted to carry the letter-bags on their shoulders; but unfortunately having gone off the high road, they became exhausted, and sunk lifeless among the snows. They hung the bags upon a pole at the side of the road, which is still marked out to the passing traveller.

all relish for the joys of life, and soon afterwards died on the field of battle in the eighth year of his reign.

On the opposite side of the Tweed, and close by the road leading from the church to Menzion house, there are the remains of a Druidical temple, or Pictish court of justice. Only one stone is left of a number similar in appearance and size which stood together, and which have been removed for the purposes of dike-building, &c. It is called the Standing-stone, and is five feet above the surface of the earth. From behind it, a person of diminutive stature, known by the name of Little John, discharged an arrow at the head of a freebooter of formidable dimensions who greatly annoyed the peaceful inhabitants, and who, though on the opposite side of the Tweed, was unable to elude the deadly stroke.* A tumulus at the spot where he fell is still pointed out as the giant's grave; and certain it is that sixteen years ago a labourer, in removing the stones of a cairn at the spot, found the grave of some ancient hero. "The sides of it," says the late incumbent of this parish, "were all regularly lined with smooth thin stones, and the top well covered with a large flag of full length." Fragments of an urn of strong earthen-ware were found within, a piece of which was brought to the minister at the time.

About thirty years before this event, a grave of the same description, and containing an urn, was found under a cairn upon Nether Oliver, the property of the Earl of Wemyss. And at a later date, upon the lands of Menzion, there was found another grave, with side stones about six feet, and a covering stone two feet thick, and five in length. Over this monument there was no cairn or heap of smaller stones. At Fruid, Hawkshaw, and Oliver are vestiges of those ancient castles, towers, or strengths, of which the strath of Tweed from this part of Peebles-shire, down to Elibank Tower, and from thence to Berwick, exhibits so many relics.

The parish church stands upon an eminence resembling a Saxon moat, triangular in form, and thirty feet in height. It has sometimes been called *Quarter Knowe*, and supposed to have been a place of Druidical worship. Forsyth in his *Beauties of Scotland* says, that "it is generally supposed to be an ancient tumulus, and is vulgarly called a Roman work." Some of the old inhabitants suppose that it is an elevation left by the confluence of the Tala and Tweed, which they say at one time overflowed the low

* This event is thought to have given rise to the well-known story of Jack the Giant Killer.

grounds now forming the glebe. A veil of mystery hangs over it which will probably never be dispelled; but as it forms the parish burial ground, as well as the site of the church, an opportunity is afforded, every time a grave is opened on the higher parts of the eminence, of observing the vast accumulation of stones which at one time or other may have there been brought together by human hands.

Family of Porteous.—Hawkshaw was formerly, and for upwards of 1000 years, the residence of the family of Porteous, allowed to have been the chief of the name; and the armorial bearing of that family has for a motto, “*Let the Hawk Shaw.*” Near the dwelling-house are faint vestiges of a chapel and burial-ground, where the sculptured head of a monk was found some time ago.

Near Tala Moss, in the same neighbourhood, there is a spot near which a detachment of sixteen horsemen from Oliver Cromwell’s camp at Biggar was surprised and barbarously murdered by Porteous of Hawkshaw.

It is also reported that here at one time a number of predatory barbarians from the English border were attacked and killed by the inhabitants.

Family of Fraser.—Oliver Castle was the paternal seat of the Frasers. “This noble and ancient family,” says Nisbet, “were originally from France, and settled in Scotland so early as the reign of Achaius 794, coëval with Charlemagne. The posterity of this emigrant were Thanes of the Isle of Man, and afterwards in Tweeddale, where they first assumed the name from the French strawberry *Frasses*. In the reign of Malcolm IV., they possessed an immense tract of land in the south of Scotland, particularly in Tweeddale, and were dignified with the power of High Sheriff of the county; and in the reigns of Alexander II. and III., and during the minority of the queen, Sir Simon Frazer, lord of Oliver Castle, 1292, with the heroism of a sound patriot, fought and defeated, with the assistance of Cummin and 10,000 Scots, a superior number of Edward First’s army, said to have been 30,000 strong, near Roslin, 27th February 1303. But he did not long enjoy these merited honours, for, like the renowned Sir William Wallace, he was put into the hands of Edward, and, like him, died a martyr to his country’s wrongs. His son being sent into exile in France, left his two sisters in possession of the estate, who soon after divided the lands in marriage with Fleming of Wigton,* and Hay of Yester;† but,

* Ancestor of the Earl of Wigton.

† Ancestor of the Marquis of Tweeddale.

hearing of the unexpected success of Robert Bruce, returned to claim his right, and to support that of his country. The king, however, on his remonstrance, finding the possessors in nowise willing to relinquish so valuable a property, granted to him an equivalent of lands in the north.* These noble families have now no interest in Tweeddale.*

There can be no doubt that the glens and mountains of this parish were among the favourite haunts of our persecuted forefathers in the reign of Charles II. Donald's Cleugh, in Gameshope, is generally understood to have been so named from its being the retreat of that sturdy adherent of the Covenant, Donald Cargill, after he had fled from his charge in the Barony church of Glasgow, in consequence of the violent persecution directed against the covenanters of the west.†

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners in this parish are the Earl of Wemyss and March, and Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, Bart.

Parochial Registers.—The parish registers commence in June 1722, and have been kept with tolerable regularity.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1755 the population was	-	397
1775,	.	250
1790-8,	.	227
1800,	.	277
1831,	.	288

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	49
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	24
trade, manufactures, or handicraft,			5
not in any of these occupations,			20
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,			5
women, including widows, upwards of 45,			3
3. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-		121
upwards of 70,	-	-	9

* Buchanan of Auchmar, in his inquiry into the genealogy of ancient Scots surnames, says, "That great man Sir Simon Frazer, so famous in the reign of Robert I., was Lord of Tweeddale, and resided at Oliver Castle in that county;" and adds, that "the Tweedies, now possessors of that castle and adjacent estate, are supposed to be descended from the ancient Frazers, now of Lovat and Saltoun." How the Tweedies became proprietors of Oliver Castle is variously conjectured, but it is undoubted that they resided at Drummelzier in James First's time, and were possessors of almost the whole lands from Neidpath Castle, near Peebles, the ancient property and chief residence of the Frasers of Oliver Castle, in this parish. It is thought that Drummelzier was alienated from them about the latter end of James Fifth's time. The site of the old castle of Oliver is still pointed out at a clump of trees on high ground opposite the manse, but on the other side of the river; and contiguous to it is the present mansion-house, a plain substantial edifice, the occasional residence of Lawrence Tweedie, Esq. now Laird of Oliver. As to the origin of the Tweedies, see Waverley Novels, Introduction to the Betrothed, pp. 6-8.

† A different account of that secluded region given by Mr William Hogg, brother of the Ettrick Shepherd.

The decrease of population has been owing to the extension of farms. The whole property of the parish belongs to nine individuals, only one of whom ranks as a resident heritor. There are only five or six individuals that can be called resident tenants.

Character and Habits of the People.—The people in general live in comfort, and scarcely any are unable to lay in their mart for winter. Poaching prevails to a considerable extent both in game and salmon; but, on the whole, the people are intelligent, moral, and religious. The shepherd's plaid is universally worn.

At Tweedhopefoot, two miles north from Tweedshaws, there lived a well-known character in his day, called Jamie Welsh, and ironically nick-named the *Bairn of Tweedhopefoot*, a perfect Milo in physical strength, huge in corporeal bulk, and having "*a heart of oak*," in respect of personal courage. His putting-stone is still shown, and it is a heavy lift for any ordinary man. It is said that he carried a load of meal (16 stones) on his back all the way from Peebles, a distance of 24 miles, and only rested twice.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—The number of English acres actually under tillage and enclosure does not exceed 300. But it is impossible to calculate how much is arable, a great proportion of the mountains being quite capable of cultivation; though, from the expense of lime and other causes, it is not considered an object to bring it into that state. Oats, barley, turnips, pease, potatoes, and artificial grasses are the usual crops, and succeed well. The average return of grain is six bolls to one sown. There are no acres in undivided common; and the number of those under wood does not exceed 25.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre is 18s. The average rate of grazing is L. 3, 10s. per ox or cow, and 5s. per ewe or full-grown sheep pastured for the year. The valued rent of the parish stood thus in 1819:

Earl of Wemyss,	L. 1657	7	0
Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, Bart.	720	0	0
Anderson of Carterhope,	278	10	10
Lord Forbes,	272	7	0
Scott of Fingland,	237	9	2
Stewart of Hawkshaw,	228	12	0
Tweedie of Oliver,	215	13	6
Welsh of Earlishaugh and Tweedshaws,	180	0	0
Stewart of Glenbreck,	172	7	0

Total in Scotch money, L. 3962 6 6

Rate of Wages.—A good man-servant gets L. 12 per annum; and if married, a house in addition, and sometimes a cow's grass, if

he does not receive victuals from his master. A very capable servant-woman gets at the rate of L. 6 per annum. Mechanics charge 2s. 6d. per day with victuals, and 3s. *without* victuals.

Shepherds.—That very useful class of men receive as wages 45 sheep, (which may be valued at 7s. each,) 3 loads, or 6 bolls, of meal (per annum,) a cow, and dwelling-house, with a garden or potato plat. In some cases, where the charge is extensive, two or three milch cows are allowed; and if a shepherd has to employ a son, or any young man, as an assistant, a proportion of meal and sheep is granted for his wages and maintenance. Being more in the capacity of stewards or overseers than servants, our shepherds have much confidence reposed in them by their masters, or rather employers, and enjoy advantages and comforts corresponding to the importance of the station they occupy. They are seldom removed from their situation; their fidelity insures it to them till old age unfits them for the discharge of its duties, and often it descends from father to son.

Husbandry.—Smearing of sheep is universally practised, and tar and palm-oil forming a cheaper preparation, and no less efficacious than others that have been recommended, is now very generally used, though, to prevent the undue preponderance of the first named ingredient, many add a considerable proportion of butter and train-oil. Light stocking is carefully attended to, and ewe milking is almost entirely abandoned. At the great show of the Highland Society at Dumfries, Mr James Welsh of Earlsbaugh, who is the present tenant of Carterhope, gained the highest premium for black-faced, and Mr William Aitchison, present tenant of Menzion, for Cheviot. The former has for upwards of two years past tried the experiment of crossing the whole of Carterhope ewes with the Leicester breed of tups, which is found to succeed well. The price obtained for 600 sold at Liverpool last year was 14s. 6d., which he considered a good return.

In this parish there are 16,000 sheep, of which 9,000 are Cheviot or white-faced, and the remaining 7,000 are black faced. The former were introduced about thirty years ago, and, on account of the superior quality of the wool, are allowed to give the best return, especially when reared on land grassy and dry. But as the latter are generally supposed to be a hardier race, some give them the preference as best adapted for high, wet, and badly sheltered situations, though the opinion of some of the most intelligent, judicious, and experienced of our store-masters is decidedly against this notion.

About fifty years ago draining commenced in this parish on a large scale, and at a rough calculation not less than 80,000 roods have undergone that process. Catching of moles, building of stells or shelters for the sheep in stormy nights, and erecting march dikes or fences between different farms, are great improvements, and much has been done in these respects of late. The uncedmented or Galloway dike is preferred as a fence for sheep. The duration of leases for such farms as this parish contains is extremely various, being 4, 6, 8, 14 to 19 years. The farm-houses are all slated and built of stone and lime, and most of them are two stories high. Several of the shepherds' houses are built of stone and lime, and covered with slate.

The greatest obstacle to improvement is the distance of lime and extent of land carriage for all kinds of material. A single cart of lime when every thing is hired costs 13s. or 14s.

Produce.—The average value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Oats at 14s. 6d. per boll, barley at 22s. per boll, and pease at 20s. per boll, the only grains cultivated in the parish,	L. 303	14	0
Potatoes at 5s. per boll,	143	15	0
Turnips at 50s. per acre,	80	0	0
Meadow hay at 4d. per stone,	241	17	6
Cultivated do. at 6d. per stone,	61	15	0
Wool at the present prices, not less than 18s. per stone,	2400	0	0
	L. 3231	1	6

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Town.—The nearest market-town is Biggar, which is twelve miles from the Crook Inn. In the parish there is no village of any description.

Means of Communication.—There are post-chaises and horses at Crook, where is also our post-office. The great road from Edinburgh to Dumfries by Moffat runs ten miles through the parish; and, as the mail-coach passes along it daily, it is of course kept in a state of excellent repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is scarcely two miles from the lower extremity of the parish, and, consequently, some of the parishioners have to travel eight miles in order to reach it. It was built in 1648, and is at present in good repair. It accommodates 160 individuals, and about 30 free sittings are afforded by the communion seats, which, however, have lately been removed to make way for a stove during the severer months in winter; but in summer, when required for the greater attendance at that time, they are replaced.

The manse was built thirty-six years ago, and, along with the church, has just been receiving extensive repairs.

The glebe contains 9 acres and 17 falls Scots measure, of excellent quality, and may be worth L. 20 Sterling per annum.

The church, manse, and glebe are situated on a beautiful peninsula formed by the junction of Tweed and Tala. The stipend is 14 chalders, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. Of valued teind there is about L. 60, which is paid in money, without conversion into meal and barley. The last augmentation was obtained in 1821, leaving the teinds unexhausted.

The parishioners are all attached to the Established church, and attend its services, with the exception of two individuals, who had been brought up in Secession principles at Peebles, and generally attend a meeting-house at Biggar, though they frequently appear along with their family at the parish church. The communicants are 120, and, considering the scattered state of the population, and the distance of many from the house of prayer, the usual attendance at Divine ordinances is remarkably good.

Education.—Besides the parish school, there are occasionally two private teachers hired for the convenience of a few families at a distance. The branches taught in the parish school, besides the ordinary ones, are geography, French, Latin, and Greek. The salary is L. 32 Sterling per annum; and school fees amount to about L. 12 more. The legal accommodation of a dwelling-house is afforded. The garden is only one-half of the legal allowance, but in lieu of the other half, one boll of meal is granted. For teaching reading the master charges 8s., writing, 10s., arithmetic, 12s., Latin and Greek, 14s. per annum.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—There was formerly a voluntary assessment among the heritors, but at present there is no assessment of any kind. The only support for the poor is derived from the weekly collections at church,—the proceeds of mortcloth and proclamations of banns. The spirit of independence is very strong among the people of this parish, and great aversion is generally felt to receiving aid from the *poor-box*, as it is called. There is at present only one pensioner on the poors' funds, who receives 1s. 3d. per week. Foreign mendicity annoys us greatly, and the conveyance of cripples, &c. from hence to Moffat, on the one hand, (fifteen miles) and to Broughton, on the other (eight miles,) forms, as might be expected, a very important item in our annual expenditure. The annual amount arising from all the usual sources

combined for the support of the poor, does not reach at an average L. 10 Sterling.

Inns.—There are three of these in the parish, but, being situated on the turnpike road, they may be considered necessary for the accommodation of travellers. At the same time they are, to a certain extent, demoralizing in their influence, especially on the habits of those who live in their vicinity. From the responsibility attached to the office of shepherds in this district, where they are entrusted with almost the whole management, men of truly upright characters have been generally selected, and it certainly speaks volumes in favour of their principles, that few of them are at all injuriously affected by the temptations which the contiguity of taverns seldom fails to present.

Fuel.—Coal of good quality cannot be procured nearer than Douglas, twenty-six miles distant, and of course it is an expensive fuel. But excellent peat abounds in the parish, which is of immense value, as respects the comfort of the poor. Such was the wetness of the summer 1830, that it was scarcely procurable, and coals were used in most houses during the following winter; and persons upwards of seventy years of age had recourse to this kind of fuel who had never seen it in their houses before.

April 1834.

PARISH OF DRUMMELZIER.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES SOMMERVILLE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—Mr Welsh, in the Statistical Account of 1790, states, that the name signifies in Gaelic “*here is a plain.*” Mr Chalmers in his Caledonia, derives it from a term signifying the inhabited “ridge.”

The figure of the parish is irregular. The extreme length may be reckoned fourteen miles, and the average breadth betwixt three and four. It is bounded for the most part by the Tweed, and the mountains rise at a small distance from the river, leaving no great quantity of arable land, though in different places it spreads out into very fine haughs. The population is also chiefly on the river side.

Meteorology.—From the height of the parish above the level of the sea, the temperature of the air is rather cold. The prevailing winds are the west and south-west. The greatest rains are from the south and south-west; and though there are very heavy showers from the west, they are seldom of long duration. Rain from the east is not frequent, but when it does take place, generally continues long. The air is damp from the neighbourhood of the mountains, though the soil is so dry that the greatest rains speedily disappear. The east wind prevails much in spring, but the eastern *haar* is never seen here. The crops are occasionally so much injured by frost, in late seasons, as to be unfit for seed.

Diseases.—The prevailing diseases are fevers and consumption, as stated in 1790; but rheumatism, which then prevailed, has greatly ceased, probably owing to the people being now better lodged and clothed. Ague, which appears to have greatly prevailed in the seventeenth century, is now unknown.

Hydrography.—The only river in the parish is the Tweed, which divides it on the upper part, and runs along the west and north sides

of it through the lower part ; its depth varies from one foot to three or four, with occasionally deep pools.

Geology and Mineralogy.—The rocks consist of a very hard grey-wacke (whinstone,) having many veins of quartz; of which latter there are also detached masses frequently met with. There is a rock of compact and very white limestone, on the side of a hill on the east side of the Tweed, and another similarly situated on the west side, exactly opposite each other; and no other lime is to be found nearer than twelve miles. The stratum in both, ranges from west to east. Neither of these, however, are wrought, owing to the distance from coal. There is abundance of slate in the hills, but none wrought at present, as there is an excellent quarry at Stobo, capable of supplying all the neighbourhood. Although the mountains are of transition formation, no organic remains have hitherto been found in them. The soil is generally sharp; the haughs consist of rich alluvial deposits; the land is in general excessively stony; and the stones are of the same kind as those which compose the neighbouring rocks. There is no sandstone, and very little clay in the parish.

Botany.—The common heaths and natural grasses prevail on the mountains, and form excellent sheep-pasture. The hills are well fitted for bearing Scots firs and larch; ash, plane and elm, thrive well on the lower grounds, and much of the hills might be planted with great advantage. But the planting of trees is expensive here, as very sufficient fences are necessary to preserve them from the sheep.

There are upwards of 400 imperial acres of wood in the parish, part of which is on the property of each of the heritors, but chiefly on the estate of Dawick, the property of Sir John M. Nasmyth, Bart. of Posso. He has already planted 360 acres, besides old wood in the park, single trees and shrubberies, and he is about to plant still more extensively. Some of the finest wood in Scotland has been raised on this estate; the horse chesnuts are not only ascertained to be the first introduced into Scotland, but are among the largest. The oaks and sycamores are also very large, and the larches the largest in Scotland, introduced into the country in 1725, by the grandfather of the present proprietor, one of the earliest and most spirited improvers in Scotland. One larch is about twenty feet in circumference at the bottom. There are about eleven imperial acres of natural wood.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts of the Parish.—In Dr Pennecuik's History of Tweeddale there are several notices of the parish of Drummelzier. There is also something on the same subject in the very accurate and particular agricultural survey of the County of Peebles by the Rev. Mr Findlater.

Land-owners.—The land-owners are, Sir John M. Nasmyth, Bart. proprietor of Dawick; Sir James Montgomery, Bart. proprietor of Stanhope; Andrew White, Esq. proprietor of Drummelzier; the Rev. John T. Beresford, proprietor of Kingledoors; and Colonel Hunter, proprietor of Polmood.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers begin 1649, and have been regularly kept ever since, except from the year 1683 to 1689, during which period the minister was ejected for non-conformity; except also from 1694 to 1700, and from 1702 to 1705, in which intervals there were vacancies in the incumbency of the parish; and during vacancies the registrations seem to have been altogether neglected.

Antiquities.—There are traces of a road along the top of the mountain *Scrape*, understood to have been Roman, and which probably connected the camp at Lyne with the great road which ran from Carlisle towards Falkirk. There are also the remains of two old castles, the one called Tinnes Castle, supposed to be a corruption of Thaness. It is of so great antiquity that there is no tradition either of its erection or destruction. The walls are two Scots ells thick, and the cement as hard as the stone. The other is called Drummelzier Place, evidently more modern. It was the residence of the Tweedies of Drummelzier, the last of whom died in 1617.

III.—POPULATION.

It is impossible to discover the state of the population further back than Dr Webster's Account, 1755. But in as far as calculation can be founded on the register of baptisms, the population does not differ materially betwixt 1649 and 1755.

It has been gradually decreasing ever since that time, from the increasing wealth of the country, which puts it in power of individuals to take much larger farms than they were formerly able to do. The cottages also are allowed greatly to go to decay. This seems bad policy, as the cottages supply the farmers with labourers; and the servants whose parents reside in the neighbourhood are generally most trust-worthy.

In 1755 the population was	-	305
1790, males, 123 }	-	270
females, 147 }		
1801, - - -	-	278
1811, - - -	-	292
1821, - - -	-	293
1831, males, 107 }	-	223
females, 116 }		

Proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, are 5, and they constitute the whole proprietary of the parish.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	42
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	26
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	-	8
2. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	-	46
deaths,	-	-	-	-	16
marriages,	-	-	-	-	18
3. Number of deaf and dumb,	-	-	-	-	1

There is one deaf and dumb boy now receiving education in the Edinburgh Institution.

Character of the People.—The people, on the whole, enjoy the comforts of life in a reasonable degree, and are contented with their situation and circumstances. There is little poaching in game, but a great deal in salmon. Since the duties were so far lowered that good spirits can be got at moderate prices, an end has been put to smuggling, which at one time prevailed considerably; nor is there any more drunkenness in this parish now than formerly, in consequence of the duties being lowered. There are neither spirits nor malt liquors sold in the parish. The people are remarkably sober; and their general sobriety has improved greatly of late years.

During the last three years, there were 7 cases of illegitimate birth; but in 5 of these the parents married.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—There are 12 ploughs in the parish, which may have on an average 60 imperial acres each. The number of acres never cultivated is 13,815. It is supposed there are about 36 acres in the low ground that could be profitably brought under cultivation. The number of acres under natural wood is 11; under plantations, 400.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of wages to farm-servants is from L. 10 to L. 12 per annum, with victuals; of women, L. 6. The wages of day-labourers are from 1s. 3d. to 1s. 6d. with victuals, per day for men; for women, 8d. In 1790 they were only the half of that amount. Wrights and masons get 2s. 6d. per day, without victuals.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—There are about 6600 sheep in the parish, mostly of the black-faced breed, which, though inferior to the

Cheviot in fineness of wool, suit the climate better. The Ayrshire breed of cows prevail, and every attention is paid to improving them.

Rent of Land.—There is some pasture-land let this year for one season at L. 3, 3s. per Scots acre. The rent of arable land cannot be particularly specified, as all the farms consist partly of arable, and partly of hill pasture, and a general rent is given for the whole, some of the farmers putting more, and some less on the arable; but the average among those who live by farming may be reckoned 18s. per Scots acre. Some small lots are let to tradesmen, &c. at L. 2, 5s. per Scots acre, though of very inferior quality; but this is far beyond what could be given by those who are to make their livelihood by farming.

Husbandry.—The farm-buildings are generally good, and the enclosures mostly dry stone dikes. The crops are chiefly oats and barley. Bear or bigg is scarcely at all sown. Wheat is sometimes tried, but in small quantities.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

Wheat, 75 bolls, of 4 bushels each,	-	-	-	L. 87	18	0
Pease, 90 do.	-	-	-	63	0	0
Oats, 1689 bolls, of 6 bushels each,	-	-	-	1168	5	0
Barley, 240 do.	-	-	-	240	18	0
Potatoes, 27 acres, from L. 3 to L. 15 per acre,	-	-	-	286	10	0
Turnips, 79 acres, from L. 2, 10s to L. 5 per acre,	-	-	-	283	0	0

N. B.—There is scarcely any market for potatoes or turnips, which are mostly consumed on the farms. The above is their estimated value, but not what they actually bring in to the farmer.

Meadow hay, 41 acres, 3600 stones, at from 3½d. to 4d.	-	-	-	91	13	4
Cultivated, 57½ acres, 7475 stones, at from 5d. to 6d.	-	-	-	158	16	2

The same remarks apply here as to potatoes and turnips.

<i>Pasture.</i> —Cattle, 209 milk cows or grazing cattle, from L. 2 to L. 3, 3s. each per annum,	-	-	-	532	0	0
Sheep, 6600, from 4s. 6d. to 5s. each,	-	-	-	1502	0	0

Total, - L. 4414 0 6

Two acres of hill pasture may be considered as the average quantity for a sheep, and two acres of arable land sown with grass seeds may be considered as the average for a cow or ox.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns.—There is no market-town in the parish. The two nearest are those of Peebles and Biggar, the first 10, and the other 8 miles distant. As grain markets,—Lanark, which is distant eighteen miles, and Dalkeith twenty-four. There is a small village in the parish containing fifteen or sixteen families.

Means of Communication.—These are not very favourable. Coal is brought from Douglas, about twenty miles distant, and the nearest lime is at Wiston, distant twelve miles. There are two roads

to the coals and lime, one over the top of a mountain, impassable by a heavy loaded cart in the heat of summer, and the other through mire equally impassable, except during the dry months. A small outlay would procure a good and level road both for coal and lime.

Another great disadvantage is the want of a bridge over the Tweed, which, when swelled, as it frequently is, by the rains of winter, completely intercepts all communication betwixt the opposite banks. There can be no doubt but the farmers would pay better rents, if they were only favoured with better access to the markets, and to lime and coal. There is a post-office at Rachan Mill, about a mile distant.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is not very conveniently situated, being considerably farther from one end of the parish than the other. It is in a good state of repair, and may contain nearly 200 sitters. The average attendance is about 85 or 90. Young people generally communicate when about 15 or 16 years of age.

The manse was built in 1787, and has undergone several repairs. The glebe is ten Scots acres, worth L. 1 per acre.

The stipend consists of 89 bolls, 3 firlots, 3½ lippies, barley; 91 bolls, 1 firlot, 3 pecks, 1½ lippies, oatmeal; 10 bolls oatmeal for Dawick glebe, all allocated according to the old weights and measures. The teinds are exhausted. The average amount of stipend for the last three years has been L. 198, 8s. 8d.

This parish was united to Tweedsmuir previous to the year 1643; when they were disjoined, Dawick was suppressed in 1742; and part of it joined to Drummelzier, and part to Stobo. The glebe of Dawick and some servitudes are divided equally betwixt the ministers of Drummelzier and Stobo, for which they receive 10 bolls of oatmeal each, according to the Mid-Lothian fiars.

There are no dissenters of any description in the parish at present.

Education.—The parish school is the only one in the parish. At present there are no Latin scholars, though there was a considerable number a few years ago. English costs 2s. per quarter; with writing, 2s. 6d., with arithmetic, 3s. 6d., and with Latin, 4s. 6d. The salary is L. 32, and the teacher has all the legal accommodation. The average amount of school fees during the last three years is L. 10, 2s. 3d. The people are fully alive to the benefits of education, and all can read who are of age sufficient to attend school. Part of the population is betwixt three and five miles from the parish school, but are within reach of a school in the neighbouring parish. It is worthy of remark, that the session record, betwixt the years 1650 and 1660, bears, that the minister interrogated all

the elders, if they kept family worship, by reading the scriptures, &c. and they all answered, that they neither could read themselves, nor had any in their family who could read. On which the minister exhorted them to send their children to school, and in hiring servants, to try to get some who could read.

Poor and Parochial Funds—At present there is only one person receiving regular aid: his allowance is betwixt L. 2 and L. 3 per annum. There have occasionally been six or seven on the poors' roll, some receiving 3s. 6d. a-week. They are supported by weekly collections,—the interest of L. 40,—and occasional donations from the heritors. There was an assessment for several years, but there has been none since 1824. The average amount of collections for the last seven years is L. 10, 2s. per annum; average from other sources, L. 5. The heritors have always been ready to come forward most liberally in any case of particular distress.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the last Statistical Account, Mr Welsh observes, that “few grass seeds are sown on account of the sheep, which are great enemies to them.” At present, the sowing of grass seeds (chiefly perennial rye-grass with clover) is universal. In 1790, a man-servant's wages were L. 6 a-year, a maid-servant's L. 3, 5s. Now, the man-servant receives from L. 10 to L. 12, and the maid-servant L. 6, with victuals. In 1790, a lamb cost 5s. or 6s.; now it costs about double of that sum. Sheep, if fat, cost 11s. in 1790; now they are sold at from 18s. to 20s. The ploughs used in 1790 were of the Scotch kind, few English being used, except by gentlemen or improvers, on account of the stony quality of the land. At present there is not a Scotch plough in the parish, and two horses are now universally used instead of four. The iron plough is become very common. In 1790, there were seven weavers in the parish; at present there is only one, and he has scarcely any work. There was then also a dyer, but at present there is none. The giving up of weaving and dyeing is one of the greatest changes that have taken place in parochial economy. It is found more profitable to purchase at once from the manufacturer. The turnip crops contribute much to improve the condition of both cattle and sheep. Ewe-milk cheese, of which a great quantity was made in 1790, is now almost entirely given up, as tending to injure the sheep. The introduction of thrashing-machines is an entire novelty since 1790, and they are now universally in use.

April 1834.

UNITED PARISHES OF BROUGHTON, GLENHOLM, & KILBUCHO.

PRESBYTERY OF BIGGAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. HAMILTON PAUL, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

THIS parish, which comprehends the old parishes of Broughton and Glenholm, with the southern or larger division of Kilbucho, retains, agreeably to the provisions of the deed of annexation, all the three names.

Names—Boundaries.—The origin of the designation Glenholm is sufficiently obvious. Kilbucho spelled *Kilbeukhoe*, *Kilbochoe*, *Kilbocho*, and *Kirkbucho*, is supposed to be the Gaelic term for the cell or chapel of St Bede, the venerable church historian, or St Bega, the patroness of Kilbagie, or St Bees, in Cumberland. Broughton is by some alleged to be a corruption of Borough-town, and by others of Brook-town. More probably, however, as the plain in which the hamlet is situated is surrounded by hills, forming a complete amphitheatre, and as the term Brough or Bruch in the Scottish dialect means a circle, the name has taken its rise from this circumstance of locality; “the town or village within the brough or circle of hills.”

This united parish is bounded on the west and north-west by Culter and Skirling; by Kirkurd on the north; on the east and north-east by Stobo; and by Drummelzier on the south and south-east. The Tweed divides it from Drummelzier for about four miles. It is nine miles and a half in length, and three and a-half in breadth, containing a superficies of thirty square miles.

Topographical Appearances.—The surface of the ground is beautifully irregular, and were it as well wooded as many other districts, would be extremely picturesque in respect of scenery. It is remarkable that there are only three hills or detached insulated eminences in Tweeddale. Rachan Hill in Glenholm, which is one of

the three, is a lovely green solitary height, declining suddenly to the Tweed on the one side, and on the other rising with a gentle acclivity from Holms water. The rest of the eminences are continuous chains or mountainous ranges. One of these ridges, which separates Broughton from Stobo and Kirkurd, extends for more than three miles from south to north; another, which divides Glenholm from Kilbucho and Culter, runs for nearly five miles from north-east to south-west, and a third runs parallel with the Tweed in a southerly direction for upwards of three miles; a fourth range passes through the middle of the old parish of Kilbucho from east to west for about two miles; and a fifth, though of less elevation, divides the parish of Broughton into two unequal parts. These heights are in general steep, but accessible. Culterfell, which is partly in Glenholm, is 2430 feet above the level of the sea. Cardon, in the immediate neighbourhood, with Chapelgill attached to it, is nearly as high. The other remarkable heights are Mossfennan Wormwell, and Blakup, in Glenholm; Pyketstane and Broughton-hope in Broughton, which vary from 1500 to 1800 feet above the level of the sea; and Goseland in Kilbucho, of almost equal altitude. Between those chains or ridges above-mentioned are some fine fertile valleys.

Glenholm, in particular, is a delightful pastoral vale, stretching from the site of the old church about four miles, and intersected by a limpid stream, whose windings cheat the eye so as to render it doubtful whether it be flowing up or down the glen. Its tributary streams descend through Glenhigton, Glencotho, Glenkirk, and Glenlude. At the confluence of each of these rills with Holms water, stands the dwelling of a shepherd, around which a Sabbath-like serenity reigns, save when the gathering or shearing, or washing of the sheep takes place, as described by the poet,

“ Urged to the giddy brink much is the toil,
The clamour much of men and boys, and dogs,
Ere the soft fearful people to the flood
Commit their woolly sides.”

Biggar water, which forms the boundary betwixt the Broughton on the north, and the Glenholm and Kilbucho divisions of the parish on the south, pervades a tract of moss and meadow, receiving in its course the tribute of Kilbucho and Broughton burns, and Holms water; and after its junction with the last, becomes the boundary for half a mile betwixt Stobo and Glenholm. Broughton burn falls into it at a right angle from the north, and Kilbucho burn and Holms water at similar angles from the south or south-west, and

the united streams throw themselves into the Tweed opposite the spacious and fertile haugh of Drummelzier. Here all the streams of the three parishes are united, and the scene may, with propriety, be styled "the meeting of the waters."

Geology.—Ratshill, a singularly formed eminence near the village of Broughton, is composed of hard loose stones of a slaty appearance, a species of trap or tuffa, excellently adapted to the Macadamizing of highways. Attempts have been made to find coal in Broughton, Glenholm, and Kilbucho, without success; the prevailing rocks here being those of the transition class, coal was scarcely to be expected. The general character of the soil in this united parish is moss, clay, loam, with a considerable proportion of alluvial deposition. Beautiful pebbles are frequently found on the north side of Biggar water, but on the south side not a single specimen has ever been discovered. Porphyry and jasper in small masses are abundant; and gray whin or puddingstone in detached pieces is of frequent occurrence.

Soil.—The vales through which the streams already-mentioned flow are at the upper end generally of a mossy or coarse grassy character, but where they spread out at the lower ends into holm or haugh land, the soil is deep, rich, and adapted to any species of crop.

At the junction of Biggar water with Broughton burn, the soil rivals that of the finest carse lands, and where the Capolm meets these united streams, the alluvial deposits render the ground exceedingly fruitful. They require no manure, but yield the same white crops for five or six years successively, and these are in danger of lodging from their exuberant growth. But for their liability to be overflowed by the swellings of Biggar water, the fields would make an ample return of green crops. The potatoes have sometimes materially suffered from the inundations; and early frosts have proved fatal to the pease, as well as the potatoes.

Meteorology.—In winter, the thermometer varies from below zero to 40°, and in summer from 50° to 90°, and the barometer takes the whole range from 28° to 31°, or from great storm to very dry. The clouds assume every variety of shape, colour, and appearance. In the mornings, the valleys are often covered with a thick fog, which gradually ascends the hills, and is often the prelude to a hot sultry day. When the mist forms first on the hill tops, and descends towards the valleys, it prognosticates rain; when the clouds rise gradually around the horizon, and move towards the

zenith, or when a dark cloud, with a well-defined edge, hovers at no great height, we are sure to have a storm of thunder and lightning, and hail or rain. A luminous arch of electric matter extending nearly in the direction of the Milky Way has been seen three times at least within these twenty years, and mistaken by some philosophical observers for a lunar rainbow, but at the time there was no moon in our hemisphere, and the bow was in the zenith.

The climate is in general moist, and the atmosphere cloudy. Yet the improvements in agriculture, especially the draining of the bogs and cultivation of the mosses, have greatly improved the health of the inhabitants. Ague is now unknown, and many other maladies are either mitigated or exploded.

Diseases.—The principal disorders are fevers, typhus, inflammatory or rheumatic; colds accompanied with coughs, asthma, and consumption. Vaccination is almost universally practised. Stone and gravel are less prevalent than they were in days when strong ale was the favourite beverage. Gout is scarcely known. Cutaneous eruptions are by no means common. This must in a great measure be attributed to that weekly lustration which takes place among the church-going part of the community, preparatory to their attendance on public worship.

Longevity.—The instances of longevity are perhaps unparalleled among a people so limited in respect of numbers. About twelve years ago, there were living within the space of four square miles, four persons who were each considerably above eighty years of age. In Kilbucho, there were also four who had reached the borders of ninety. Four brothers were born at Broughton-Mill, who all weathered the frosts of fourscore winters. In the village, there are at present six individuals who have passed the promised age of threescore years and ten. In the country part of the parish, there are six persons between eighty and ninety years of age; and one man has lived to see six incumbents in the pastoral care of Broughton parish, though one of them was upwards of forty years minister. The oldest man in the united parish at present, and who is tolerably healthy, is eighty-nine, and the oldest woman, who also enjoys a comfortable share of bodily strength, is eighty-two years old.

Hydrography.—There are at Rachan two fine pieces of water, ornamented with wooded islets. The one is stocked with trout, and the other with perch. The latter is fringed round the margin with an aquatic plant called tench grass.

Of rivers we have none save the Tweed, which forms the southern

boundary of Glenholm ; as it has frequently changed its course, it sometimes happens, that a part of Drummelzier is on this, and a portion of Glenholm on the other, side of the stream.

The streams besides those already mentioned are Logan and Hollows burns, the one a tributary to Broughton burn, and the other to the Tweed.

Springs.—Few parishes are more highly favoured than this in regard to salubrious springs. Bede's or Bees well, as it is commonly called, was an open draw-well built round with stone, from which issued a plentiful current. The proprietor of the glebe of Kilbucho has covered it over with flags or flat stones and earth, so as to render the spot arable, and the water, by means of a conduit, spouts in abundance from the banks into the channel of the burn.

On the old glebe of Broughton, is a well with a large stone in the middle of it. The water which springs from one side of the stone is sweet, that which rises at the other side is brackish and medicinal.

Among the hills there are wells of which the water is so very cold, that in the heat of summer a person cannot hold his hand in it for more than a minute without suffering the pain of extreme cold. One spring is remarkable for reducing spirits without tinging them.

Mineralogy.—There is not much to engage the attention of the mineralogist in this quarter. The prevailing rock is greywacke (whinstone) ; some of the beds lie in a horizontal position ; but they in general dip towards the centre of the hills. In some places where a deep cut has been made for the improvement of the high road, the section offers to the view a variety of strata, consisting of water channel, greywacke, detached masses of granite and puddingstone, intermixed with narrow beds of sand, but with few or no crystals of quartz. Brick-clay is rare, and no sandstone is to be found. On the farm of Wrae in Glenholm are a limestone and slate quarry, which, owing to the great distance from coal, and the immediate neighbourhood of the Stobo slate quarry, would scarcely repay the expense of manufacturing the minerals. Slates are also found on Rachan hill, but, for the same reason, it has not been deemed advisable to work the mine. A bed of fine sand on the farm of Stirkfield in Broughton is admirably adapted to the intermixing with lime for building, and gravel-pits are numerous.

In the vale of Kilbucho lies an extensive moss, obviously formed by the decomposition of wood and other vegetable matter. The

peat is of excellent quality. Large trunks of oaks and other trees, in good preservation, have been found imbedded in the mosses.

Zoology.—Birds.—A single pair, resembling the *Saxicola rubetra* or whin-chat, come regularly every season and build their nest on the ground, close by the side of the road leading to the manse. They usually bring seven young ones, and when these are able to fly, they all take their departure hence. It may in general be said that we have as residents or occasional visitants some species of the following genera :—*Motacilla*, *Hirundo*, *Cuculus*, *Columba*, *Rallus*, *Alauda*, *Caprimulgus*, *Turdus*, *Corvus*, *Scolopax*, *Anas*, *Emberiza*, *Parus*, and *Fringilla*.

The only sleeper we know is the bat. All birds that feed exclusively on insects must either in winter repair to milder climates, or betake themselves to repose.

The birds of passage that visit us in winter are the fieldfare, the red-wing, the snow-flake, and the cock of the north, to which we may join the ring-ouzel, that stays only till the fruit of the mountain ash is exhausted.

The water-ouzel, which feeds on fish, remains with us all the year round. The opinion, that the male chaffinches leave this district in winter, seems to originate in a mistake. The young males have for the first season no gayer plumage than the females, and, consequently, during the winter the number of females appears to be altogether out of proportion to that of the males.

Wild-swans, wild-geese, and sea-mews are not so plentiful as formerly, owing to the same cause which has banished the wild-ducks, viz. the draining of the bogs and cultivation of the meadows. The snipes, for a similar reason, are less frequent than formerly. Magpies are natives; but the jay is seldom to be seen within our bounds.

Wood-pigeons are enemies to turnips, especially the ruta бага. In severe winters they collect in thousands, and eat up not only the leaves, but penetrate into the very heart of the plant. Green kail and cabbage, if planted at a distance from houses, are equally liable to their depredations. Pheasants, as well as crows, are peculiarly hurtful to potato crops: but a species of potato has been discovered that bids defiance to their ingenuity. It may be planted so deep as to be out of the reach of their mining bills, and yet springs up as well as those planted much nearer the surface. The jay and the bullfinch are particularly obnoxious to gardeners. It is uncertain, however, whether the latter are in search of insects that

devour the buds of fruit trees, or whether they eat up the hearts of the buds themselves. The weasel, though an enemy to the poultry, is in some respects a friend to the farmer. It kills the mice and rats which lodge in corn-stacks and infest the barns of the husbandman. The usefulness of the polecat is doubtful: it seems formed only for destruction. It has been known to kill and carry away dozens, and even scores of barn-door fowls in the course of a night. Frogs and efts, or newts, purify spring water, by feasting on the insects that would corrupt it; and the lizard performs a similar office on land, by devouring those minute animals that prey on the leaves of plants. The heron, on the other hand, prevents the race of frogs from becoming too populous, in which he obtains the co-operation of ducks, wild and tame. A species of bird resembling the sea-mew is a constant attendant on the ploughman in spring, and eats up an incalculable number of grubs and worms. Tadpoles are infinite in number, but are kept down by the different species of water-fowl.

In severe winters, especially in time of snow, the barn-yards are the common rendezvous of fowls of every wing; and the loss to the farmer, if he dwell contiguous to a great man's preserve, is almost incredible, not only with regard to his stacks in winter, but his green and white crops in summer and harvest. The damage done by hares and pheasants has been ascertained to equal the rent of the farm.

Botany.—The brambleberry is scarcely known here, but the raspberry grows wild. Blaeberries are exceedingly abundant in Rachan woods, and on some of the heights. The whortleberry is also found on lofty places, along with the crane and crawberries. The sloethorn is to be found only at Mossfennan; and wild roses flourish in many places.

Hazel-nuts have been found several feet below the surface of the ground, though there are hardly any hazel bushes existing at present in this quarter. Filberts are occasionally planted in the pleasure-grounds, but they seldom bring their fruit to maturity. The remains of a natural wood may be seen on the estate of Mossfennan; but all the other trees in the parish have been planted, though formerly many of them were indigenous.

About half a century ago it was scarcely believed that any trees would thrive in this climate, except Scotch fir. John Loch, Esq. of Rachan, however, set the example; and, besides fifty acres of Scotch fir, planted larches, and a variety of hard wood trees, which

have succeeded well. In one or two places there are trees of old standing. The soil appears friendly to the production of every species of tree, whether deciduous or evergreen; but the larches, Huntingdon willows, lime, and mountain ashes, shoot up most rapidly, and the ornamental shrubs are not backward. The oldest and largest trees in the parish are ashes. In some parts of the parish, where there were extensive plantations of Scotch fir, these trees have either died or been cut down by the hand of man. The soil, which is of a gravelly and sour description, appears to be peculiarly unfavourable to the growth of that species of plant.

The climate is also unfavourable to the ripening of the richer and more delicate species of fruit. At Mossfennan, Broughton Place, and the manse, are walled gardens, which sometimes yield a good crop of apples, pears, cherries, plums, and small fruit. The wall of the old garden at Kilbucho Place is in a dilapidated state, but the crop of apples and plums is often very abundant. In some other gardens, which are surrounded only by a hedge or paling, fruit-trees are sometimes sufficiently productive. At Mossfennan, where the garden has been recently formed, with a fine exposure to the mid-day sun, apples are reared that will stand comparison with the richest produce of the orchards of Clydesdale.

In former times every farm-house had its small orchard; and if proprietors would allot to every tenant a rood or two of land, free of rent, on the condition of his planting it with fruit-trees, the country would in a short time assume a more interesting aspect, and supply the people with many of the simple luxuries of rural life.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts of the Parish.—The modern history of the parish can be gathered only from the parish registers, Dr Pennecuik's and Armstrong's Accounts of Tweeddale, and Findlater's Agricultural survey of Peebles-shire; and from the Statistical Account rendered to Sir John Sinclair, and another by a literary gentleman, a native of Glenholm, published in the Statistical Magazine of August 1819.

Eminent Persons.—The most remarkable characters connected with the district were, Secretary Murray, called the Apostate, who resided at Broughton Place, and whose history is well known:—Robert Macqueen of Braxfield, whose rigorous measures, when he was Lord Justice-Clerk, were supposed to have been amongst the means of saving this country from the horrors of a revolution.

Land-owners.—John Macqueen, Esq. of Braxfield, is sole pro-

prietor of Broughton. In Glenholm there are three residing heritors or families: Loch of Rachan, Welsh of Mossfennan, and Tweedie of Quarter. The non-resident heritors are, Sir John Hay of Hayston and Smithfield, Baronet, M. P.; Sir John Nasmyth of Posso, Baronet; Hunter of Polmood, and Seton of Dukepool.

The property of the last mentioned gentleman is in extent no more than a Scotch acre. *

Sir James Montgomery is proprietor of the eighth part of Glenkirk, amounting to L. 34 Scots of valuation. The heritors of Kilbucho are four in number, of whom three, namely, the Honourable Lord Medwyn, John Dickson, Esq. of Hartree and Kilbucho, and John Cuninghame, Esq. of Duchrae, are non-resident. The fourth, James Richardson, Esq. of Springfield, is proprietor of the old manse and glebe, on which he resides.

Parochial Registers.—The parochial registers go back as far as

* There is a curious, if not fabulous, tradition as to the mode in which this property was acquired. It runs thus: That, as one of the Scottish kings, (perhaps James IV.) who occasionally, during the hunting season, spent a few days at Polmood or Badlieu, was returning from one of those rambles, which he frequently undertook in disguise, he passed the castle of Drummelzier, the seat of Sir James Tweedie, who was in the habit of exacting homage, and levying tribute, from all passengers. The king came up to an old man, a cobbler, named Bartram, tending his cow, and amusing himself with a tune on the bagpipe. The monarch accepted an invitation to the cottage of his new acquaintance, where he was hospitably, but with homely fare, entertained by the cobbler and his wife. In the morning the king disclosed to his host who he was, and made him a grant of certain lands in view of his house, to the extent of fourteen acres, with the pool in the centre, to be called Drone instead of Duckpool, in memory of the tunes played on the bagpipe the evening before, and as much more ground at the foot of the Holms water as would keep a mare and a foal, with a brood sow and nine pigs, and a free passage for them to and from his house; and they were to be driven at no harder rate than a woman could walk knitting a stocking, or spinning on a rock or distaff. Bartram was also to have five souns of sheep on Holms common.

After the king, accompanied by the cobbler, who had offered to be his guide, passed the castle-gate without yielding the accustomed homage, they were immediately pursued and arrested by Sir James Tweedie and his armed followers. Thereupon, the king, taking a small bugle horn from his side, and sounding it, in the course of a few minutes four-and-twenty belted knights came from Badlieu to his assistance. The haughty feudal chief, having now discovered the dignity of his prisoner, fell on his knees, and implored the clemency of his sovereign, who forgave him for the present, but upbraided him with his tyranny and exactions, and commanded him against a certain day to attend his pleasure at the palace of Holyrood. The pool in the Tweed where the king was arrested is to this day known by the name of the Drone pool. It is near the march betwixt Badlieu and Glenbreck. The king charged Bartram to appear in his holyday array at Holyrood on the day appointed for Sir James Tweedie's trial, which he did, and was honoured with taking precedence of all the nobles on their entrance into the royal presence. Tweedie was tried for his offences, stript of the greater part of his possessions and titles, and was the last descendant of the Frazers of Oliver that enjoyed the honour of knighthood. Lawrence Tweedie, Esq. of Oliver, is said to be the only surviving representative of that family. The property of Bartram, now called Dukepool, has dwindled down to its present dimensions, as is alleged, by the encroachment of the neighbouring proprietors. It is now the property of Mr Seaton, son-in-law to Mr John Bartram.

the year 1700. Large portions of them have been lost ; but they are now, and have for some years past been, exceedingly well kept, and it is in contemplation to make them more complete by a rigorous enforcement of insertion.

Antiquities.—Of the circular fortifications or enclosures called camps, there are traces of no less than nine. The most remarkable is, for reasons unknown, called Macbeth's castle. It was surrounded by two concentric walls and ditches. The exterior circumvallation was about half a furlong in circumference. It was probably a place of refuge for women, children, and cattle, during the incursions of the border marauders, or it might have been a baronial or feudal judgment seat. The lesser circular strongholds appear to have been beacons or alarm posts, as they were all placed in such a line of communication as to telegraph, as it were, tidings of invasion or threatened outrage with the least possible delay.*

On the side of a hill in Kilbucho, called Aiken or Oaken Brae, where there is not a single vestige of wood at present, an axe, differing a little in shape from those now in use, and greatly corroded with rust, was turned up by the plough a few years ago. It had doubtless been employed in felling the wood, especially the oaks, which grew there in former days when this country was almost an entire forest. A kind of battle-axe of mixed metal was ploughed up near the same spot, and an instrument of a similar metallic composition was discovered in the vicinity of Polmood, a hunting-seat of our ancient Scottish kings. It has perhaps been the lock of a cross-bow, as it has a spring and a trigger. A third axe was very lately found in Cloverhill, parish of Broughton, with a hose to receive the shaft.

Near the confluence of Biggar water with the Tweed, on the estate of Rachan, in the midst of a knoll or tumulus, stone coffins containing human skeletons were discovered about forty years ago. One of the bodies was of gigantic size, and had golden bracelets round its arms. At Logan a rude stone coffin was lately found, in which were the remains of a human being ; and at a place near the church, called the Gallow Knowe, a similar discovery was made. The bones are supposed to have belonged to a criminal or vassal executed there in feudal times.

A wedge or ring of gold of considerable weight was dug up by a farmer in the parish of Broughton. He sold it to a goldsmith

* See original MS. for some details as to the remains of churches, and of the mansion-houses that belonged to the proprietors before-named.

in Glasgow, and the price enabled him to pay at least a year's rent of his farm. An ancient candlestick, and some other articles of no great value, were disinterred near the ruins of the circular camp, called Macbeth's Castle. Stone hammers and axes, arrow heads of flint, whorls of stone for old women's distaffs, adder or elfstones, tobacco-pipes, called *cutties*, and other productions of primitive art, are frequently brought up to view by the plough or the spade.

Modern Buildings.—The more modern buildings are those of Rachan, Mossfennan, and Quarter, which, with some recent additions and improvements, are delightful residences. They are all embosomed in wood, and can bid defiance equally to the winter's blast and the summer's ray. Many of the farm-houses vie with those of the gentry in outward appearance and internal accommodation. Broughton Place, however, is, perhaps, the best finished house in this vicinity. It occupies a commanding station, amid full-grown woods, near the middle of an avenue of old trees half a-mile in length.

III.—POPULATION.*

The population, according to Dr Webster, was in 1755,	Broughton.	Glenholm.	Half of Kilbucko.†	Total.
-	367	392	139	899

* That the population of these parishes was greater in former times than at present, is evident from a document giving an account of a weapon-shawing on the Borrowmuir, or King's muir of Peebles, in presence of James Nasmyth of Posso, Sheriff-depute of the sheriffdom of Peebles, the 15th day of June 1627, when, among others, compared the Laird of Stenhope, absent himself, seven of his men present horsed, all with lances and swords, in the parish of Broughton.—The Laird of Haldon absent himself.—John Waldon, his bailie present, in his name, accompanied with ten horsemen and twelve footmen, with lances and swords, in the parish of Broughton.—The Laird of Langlawhill, present, well-horsed with jack and steel bonnet, lance and sword, with thirteen horsemen with swords and lances, in the parish of Broughton.—John Paterson, portioner of Broughton-shield, present, well-horsed with lance and sword, parish of Broughton.—John Chisholm, Glenholm, for my Lord Earl of Wigton, well-horsed himself, accompanied with seven horsemen with lances and swords, dwelling on the said Noble Earl, his lands lying in the parish of Glenholm.—The Laird of Glenkirk, absent himself, four of his men present well-horsed with lances and swords, within the parish of Glenholm.—James Geddes of Rachan, present himself, well-horsed, with jack, steel-bonnet, sword and pistol, with five horsemen, with lances and sword, within the parish of Glenholm.—Adam Gillies, portioner of Whits-laid, present, well-horsed, with a lance and sword, in the parish of Glenholm.—William Brown of Logan, present, well-horsed, with lance and sword, and a horseman with nothing, parish of Glenholm.—William Tweedie, younger of Wrae, present, horsed with one horseman, both with lance and sword, parish of Glenholm.—Sir Archibald Murray of Darnhall, well-horsed, with a collet, accompanied with forty-two horsemen with lances and swords, ten jacks and steel bonnets, within the parish of Kilbucko and Eddlestone.—The Laird of Hartree, absent himself, ten of his men present, horsed, with lances and swords, parish of Kilbucko.—The two last mentioned can hardly be said to have belonged to this parish, as the great proportion of their property lay without its bounds.

† The half of Kilbucko is here assumed as the proportion of the southern division—but it is incorrect. The southern half, as it is called, is larger in extent and greater in

Armstrong,	-	1775,	-	274	270	125	679
Sir J. Sinclair,		1791,	.	264	300	181	745
Government,	-	1801,	-	214	242	171	627
-----	-	1811,	-	231	213	160	604
-----	-	1821,	-	263	236	168	667
-----	-	1831,	-	299	259	182	740
Males,	-	-	1831,	-	154	127	371
Females,	-	-	-	-	145	132	369
Total				299	259	182	740

Broughton is the only village in the parish. Its inhabitants amount to 100, and they have varied very little in number for the last fifty years. The country population is of course 640.

1. Number of families in the parish, - - - 160
of families chiefly employed in agriculture, - - - 74
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft, 33
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age, 20
of unmarried women, including widows upwards of 45, - 20
3. The average number of births yearly, for the last seven years, - 16
of deaths, exclusive of those buried in other parishes, 5
of marriages of parishioners only - - - 5
4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age, - - - 260
upwards of 70, - - - 30

The families of independent fortune residing in the parish are 4, besides a gentleman's family who occasionally take up their abode, and an old gentleman, who has retired from public life.

The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards is 10; and of those who draw an inferior rent, 3.

Character and Habits of the People.—The people are above the middle size. They excel in athletic exercises, and have gained prizes in the gymnastics of St Ronans. Harvest home, halloween, new-year's-day, and Valentine's eve, are observed with a kind of religious scrupulosity. In adorning their persons and decorating their cottages, they in general exhibit taste and neatness. The ordinary food of the common people is oatmeal porridge to breakfast; kale or broth, with sometimes a little animal food, to dinner; potatoes, whole or mashed; porridge or sowens, (a preparation from oatmeal siftings,) with milk, to supper, and frequently bread and cheese, or butter. Those who have little gardens attached to their dwellings have always a supply of wholesome culinary vegetables. Loaf-bread has almost superseded the use of oaten cakes. The farmers, who were wont to mess with their servants, have now their separate dining parlours.

Drinking bouts are less frequent and less protracted than they

population than the northern half, but the difference is not material. As the old parish of Kilbucho is in some respects still undivided, it would have been better to have given all its statistics in one return, particularizing the different proportions, but, owing to the misunderstanding, this could not be effected.

were in the days of our forefathers. Profane swearing is less fashionable, and fighting not so much in vogue. Few people enjoy the comforts of life and advantages of society more than the inhabitants of this district of country. They are equally remote from the refined luxuries of metropolitan life and the rusticity of clownish ignorance. They are social, convivial, hospitable, fond of reading, though without parish libraries,—the wealthy having small select libraries of their own, and the poorer the Bible and shorter catechism. Many of them are subscribers to a public library in Biggar.

Poachers are diminishing in numbers. Some fines have of late been imposed, which may operate as a check, and smuggling is greatly on the decline. A few years ago private distillation was practised among the neighbouring mountains.

During the last three years, there have been 9 illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

This united parish contains 20,000 imperial acres, and one-fourth is in lea or under the plough,	-	-	-	-	5000
And one twentieth part capable of being cultivated,	-	-	-	-	1000
Capable of being cultivated with a profit,	-	-	-	-	100
The rest is meadow and hill pasture,	-	-	-	-	14000
In undivided common,	-	-	-	-	40
Under wood,	-	-	-	-	250

The plantations consist chiefly of Scotch fir and larch, a considerable number of oaks, ashes, elms, beeches, limes, birches, alders, mountain ashes, and all the willow tribe are intermixed with evergreens, such as spruce and silver fir.

Rent of Land.—The value of the arable lands varies from L. 3 to 10s., and the average may be stated at L. 1, 5s. per acre. The highest rent of grazing per ox for the season, L. 6; the highest rent of grazing per cow, L. 5; sheep for the year, 7s.

Rate of Wages.—A ploughman's wages, L. 9, 15s., six bolls of meal, a cow's grass, and four carts of coal driven; shepherd's wages, cow, meal, and coal, as above, forty sheeps' grass, half a boll of potatoes planted; if a single man, he has only the sheeps' grass, with victuals and lodging in lieu of the rest. Maid-servants from L. 2, 10s. to L. 3, 10s. the half year; a day-labourer in summer, 1s. 6d. per day, with victuals; wrights, masons, and other artisans 2s. a day, with victuals also; in winter a reduction takes place; tailors who go to families to work receive 1s. 6d. a-day and their food; weavers, 2d. 3d. 4d. 5d. 6d. and 7d. per yard, according to quality; peat-casters 1s. 6d. a day, with victuals,—women get only

1s. and their meat; reapers' wages vary exceedingly, according to the season, from 1s. to 2s., with victuals; hay-makers, men 1s., women 6d., with food; potatoe and turnip hoers, generally females, may be had for 6d. per day, with victuals, sometimes 10d.

Husbandry.—The system of husbandry carried on is agreeable to modern improvements. A rotation of crop is almost universally adopted. In breaking up the lea or pasture ground, which has lain for some seasons, the first crop or crops are oats or peas; next, turnips or potatoes; third, barley, among which rye-grass and clover seeds are sown; fourth, hay. Then it either remains in pasture for a few years, or a fresh rotation commences. When wheat is intended to be raised, previous summer fallowing is essential. The iron plough has in a great measure superseded the use of the old Scotch plough. The hurkle is used in strong foul land; seldom more than two horses are employed, and oxen are generally disused. The ploughmen display great skill, and make beautiful work. Robert Welsh, Esq. of Mossfennan, has recently improved thirty-six acres of moorland, which before yielded nothing but coarse heath, but now produces the most luxuriant crops under an approved course of rotation.

Thomas Tweedie, Esq. of Quarter, is giving a new face to his farm of Whitslaid, under the superintendence of a grieve or land-steward. He is renewing the fences, manuring with lime, putting down a number of additional plantations, and otherwise improving that portion of his estate, which in a few years will render it an ornament to this part of the country.

On the estate of Rachan, the Tweed, for about a mile, has been substantially embanked by William Loch, Esq. the proprietor; a considerable quantity of fine haugh or holm land is thus protected from the encroachments of the river. Other improvements of importance have been made on the estate of Kilbucho, more especially on that of Kilbucho Place, and on the glebe.

Neither the Fiorin grass nor the Lucerne has been cultivated to any extent. The mangel-wurzel has been raised on a very limited scale, and the Swedish turnip has fallen into disrepute. The globe turnip arrives at the greatest size, the yellow stands the winter best, and the red-topped holds a middle rank in the estimation of the farmer. By allowing these different varieties to grow to seed in the same field, some curious hybrids have been produced, surpassing any of the parents as esculents. A cross betwixt the yellow and globe has been tried with success.

Leases are generally granted for nineteen years, but farms purely of the store kind are let for fourteen years only. In some instances a break in the lease at the end of five, nine, or any other number of years is agreed on.

The chief hinderances to improvement are the non-residence of the proprietors, the distance from markets, coal, and lime; and to these may be added strict entails, which fetter both the landlord and the tenant.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce (exclusive of pasture) yearly raised in the parish may be as follows:

2000 acres wheat, barley, oats, pease, at L. 8 per acre,	L. 16000	0	0
90 acres potatoes, at L. 7 per acre,	630	0	0
240 acres turnips, at L. 4 per do.,	960	0	0
189 acres sown grass, 85 do. meadow hay,	941	0	0
Pasture, rating it at L. 3 per cow grazed, or that may be grazed, for the season, and 5s. per ewe pastured, or that may be pastured, for the year,	2400	0	0
Thinnings of wood,	300	0	0
	<hr/>		
	L. 21231	0	0

Hardly any flax is raised in this parish. It is supposed to scourge the soil, and linen can be purchased at a moderate rate.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The principal cause of the great unevenness of the old public roads was a belief that it was next to impossible to make a path that could be travelled, through a bog, swamp, or morass. Yielding to this mistaken notion, the surveyor conducted his line up hill and down dale, wherever he could find a hard or rocky bottom, which was less injurious in its effects, at a time when wheel carriages were almost altogether unknown. Another cause was the desire of accommodating country gentlemen with regard to their parks, policies, and gardens. To avoid interfering with these, the road formed a semicircle, or went off at a right angle, thereby occasioning a loss to the public, and a delay to the traveller.

Under the management of a skilful and judicious superintendent, the line of toll-road is in a fair way of being greatly amended. Three miles of new road, from the village of Broughton to the northern extremity of the parish, has already been made at an expense of about L. 1000, and another of nearly two miles, farther south, is contracted for at L. 800 or thereby, and when the work shall be executed, the intercourse between the capital and the

provincial town will be facilitated, and the road will rival the best in the kingdom.

The mail from the south arrives at Broughton about half-past twelve noon; that from the north reaches the same place at one in the morning. Last summer, the Hero light-coach went and came every alternate day.

There is one toll-bar within the parish. The rates are, a horse, 3d.; cart with horse, 6d.; a gig or chaise with one horse, 9d.; a carriage with two horses, 1s. 6d.; with four, 3s.; with six, 4s. 6d.; black cattle, per score 1s. 8d.; sheep do. 4d., &c. The present rent is L. 124. It was only L. 100 last year.

The worst piece of road in this part of the County is from Peebles to Biggar through Broughton, but it is now in a fair way of soon being in a state of good repair. From the coal-works at Ponfeith to the Tweed in this vicinity, the tract is so level, that a rail-road or canal could be easily formed. A great proportion of the waters of the Clyde might, with very little effort, be brought to join the Tweed.

In the new road bill, it is proposed that a line from Peebles to Biggar shall be formed, whereby every inequality of surface may be avoided. Should this plan be executed, the English tourist may begin at Berwick upon Tweed, and proceed along a comparatively smooth, level, and delightful road, enjoying the whole of the beautiful and grand scenery of two of the finest rivers in the kingdom, and terminate his land journey at Greenock, whence he may voyage in steam-boats, and circumnavigate all the western islands of Scotland.

A survey has been taken of a rail-road from Glasgow to Kelso, which would pass through this parish, or a little to the north of it, to Peebles, and by the side of the Tweed to Kelso, and even to Berwick. As there are several iron-works not far distant, the material for the road might be had at a comparatively trifling expense.

The toll-road within the parish is eight miles in length: a parish road, part of the line from Peebles to Biggar, extends for about three miles, and another parish road runs for three miles and a-half through the southern part of Kilbucho, till it joins the roads leading to Biggar and Culter.

There are three bridges along which the turnpike road runs, one over Kilbucho, and another over Broughton burn, with a few

of less size over the smaller streams. They are kept in good repair, but the old ones are narrow and awkwardly placed.

Market-Town.—The nearest market town is Biggar, at the distance of five miles from Broughton village.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is situated in Kilbueho, and is very central for the united population. The most remote house in the parish is not five miles from the church. The church was built in 1804, exceedingly homely in its exterior, but very comfortable as a place of worship, with regard to its internal arrangement, and capable of accommodating 500 persons. The sittings are all free. Each of the heritors has his proportion of room for his own family and those of his tenants, and strangers are accommodated in the least crowded pews. The church is in a good state of repair.

The manse was built in 1815, and cost upwards of L. 1200. The situation chosen for the manse was in appearance the least eligible that could be selected. It was in the centre of a morass that could not be drained. The incumbent only was satisfied. It was objected to by both heritors and presbytery. Two or three old thorn bushes tried in vain to hide the nakedness of the scene. When the manse and offices were finished in a superior style, the heritors having added L. 100 of their own accord to the expense, over and above the original estimate and contract, the incumbent set to work, and with his own hands raised a wood in front, and at one of the ends of the house, which now almost prevents the mountain tops from being seen from the lower windows. Some of the birches, alders, limes, Huntingdon willows, and mountain ashes, are as thick as a man's waist, and from twenty to thirty feet in height. The oaks, ashes, larches, and spruces, are also in a thriving condition. The soil is favourable to the growth of thorn hedges and shrubs in general. Fruit-trees do not succeed so well, as the sub-soil is till, and when the roots reach it the tree degenerates.

The glebe of Broughton, which was an excamb in lieu of the old one, is in extent about 21 English acres, and is worth at least L. 2 an acre. The glebe of Glenholm consists of six acres, worth L. 3 each, but at present rented at only L. 15. The glebe of Kilbueho was sold: it contains about 10 acres, and brought L. 551. The interest of the purchase-money is divided betwixt the ministers of Culter and Broughton, &c. The principal ought to have been laid out in land to augment the present glebes, or,

had it not been for gross mismanagement, 5 per cent. might have been obtained. Being now lodged in the Royal Bank, the annual return is of course greatly diminished of late years.

The stipend was $12\frac{1}{2}$ chalders of victual, half meal and half barley, with L. 8, 6s. 8d. for communion elements. An augmentation of 2 chalders has been recently obtained.

The number of families attached to the Established church is 124,—number of persons rather more than 400. The Established church is exceedingly well attended. There are only four seceding or dissenting families in the parish, and two or three single persons; and two of these families have lately come to reside within the bounds. Three individuals only have gone over to the seceders or dissenters for the last twenty years. A considerable number of seceders and dissenters have returned to the bosom of the Established church within the same space of time. One or two connected with the Reformed Presbytery reside in the parish, and regularly attend the church. There are two or three individuals that affect no religious profession, and hardly ever enter a place of worship. We are occasionally favoured with a visitation from Itinerants, Independents, or members of the Congregational Union of Scotland. The inhabitants in general seem well affected to the Establishment.

Before quitting the subject of the church and manse, we may mention, that, when the heritors took the latter off the hands of the contractor, they drew up a paper, which was subscribed by the principal heritor as preses of the meeting, by which they consigned over the church, manse, and offices to the incumbent, empowering him, when anything went wrong, to employ a tradesman without calling any meeting of heritors, and to charge the expense to their account. The church has not cost them five shillings a-year since it was built, and the manse not fivepence. The road to the manse from the public road was made to the march of the glebe at the expense of the incumbent, and the rest at that of the public. It cost them about L. 24, and requires nothing to keep it up. The path to the church is along three wooden bridges, which are supported at little cost, as one of the heritors gives the wood for nothing; and the timber of another bridge over Broughton burn, forming a communication betwixt the manse and the village, is furnished by another heritor. The heritors hardly ever lend a deaf ear to any application for the advantage of the parish. The number of communicants is about 300.

The yearly contributions to religious or charitable purposes do not average above L. 2 per annum, exclusive of the subscriptions to the Biggar Bible Society.

Education.—Notwithstanding the annexation of the parishes, the three parochial schools continued on the former footing, subject to such alterations as the heritors and presbytery might judge proper. The branches professed, besides the ordinary, are Latin, geography, and practical mathematics. But Latin is getting out of fashion here. There is not a Latin scholar, that is a pupil, in the district.

The salary of each of the schoolmasters is L. 32, with a house and garden.

The school-fees at Broughton may amount to L. 20; at Glenholm to little more than L. 12; and at Kilbucho to about L. 15. The school of Kilbucho, owing to a most unhappy misunderstanding, is at present vacant, but well taught by an interim-teacher, who receives the emoluments.

The school wages are fixed at 2s. a quarter, for reading English; 2s. 6d. for reading, writing, and arithmetic; and 3s. for the higher branches.

A new school and schoolmaster's house have been recently built, but on a niggardly plan, in the parish of Kilbucho. Had the heritors at the time the annexation was completed, instead of demolishing the old manses, converted them into schools and schoolmasters' houses, they might have, at a small expense, provided ample accommodation to masters and scholars.

Few have attained to the age of fifteen who cannot both read and write. Access to education is granted to all. If the parents are unable to pay the fees they are paid by the public, or the children are taught gratis. Some of the old cannot write, but they can all read.

Friendly Society.—A friendly society was established in the year 1800, and is still in existence. Its stock amounts to about L. 200. Sick members are allowed 3s. 6d. a-week; superannuated members, L. 2, 12s. per annum; and widows, L. 1.

Savings Bank.—A savings bank was instituted here in 1815, and has prospered. The deposits have averaged more than L. 100 a-year; but, as many of the sums exceed the legal amount, the greater part has been withdrawn and deposited elsewhere. The great proportion of depositors are servants, especially females.

Poor.

The regular paupers who receive parochial aid, at the rate of 5s. per month, are three,	-	-	-	-	L. 9 15 0
Occasional, at the rate of L. 2 per annum, three,	-	-	-	-	6 0 0
Donations to accidental paupers, at the yearly average of	-	-	-	-	5 0 0
House rent to two, at L. 1,	-	-	-	-	2 0 0
Coals at the rate of 10s. 6d. a cart, 16 carts,	-	-	-	-	8 8 0
Relieving stranger paupers, with passes, &c.	-	-	-	-	1 10 0
Synod clerk and officer,	-	-	-	-	0 10 6
Presbytery clerk and officer,	-	-	-	-	1 6 0
Session-clerk,	-	-	-	-	1 5 0
Treasurer,	-	-	-	-	1 0 0
Collecting contributions from the heritors, once in three years or so,	-	-	-	-	1 5 0
To the precentor, who refuses to accept of any remuneration for his services, a present to the value of	-	-	-	-	2 0 0
Kirk-officer, who is also sexton,	-	-	-	-	2 0 0
Repairing bell chain,	-	-	-	-	0 0 6
Given to a soldier's wife,	-	-	-	-	0 1 0
Total disbursements in the year 1831,					L. 42 1 0
Annual collections in church,					L. 24 1 0
Interest of L. 136, of which L. 90 is a legacy left by the late Rev. W. Porteous,	-	-	-	-	2 15 0
Voluntary contributions by the heritors once in three years or so, of L. 25,	-	-	-	-	8 6 8
Mortcloth 14s. 4d., fines L. 1,	-	-	-	-	1 14 4
Donations from wealthy or non-residing heritors, less or more,	-	-	-	-	5 5 0
Total receipt for 1831,					L. 42 2 0

When the disbursements exceed the receipts, application is made to the heritors within the three years. No demur on the part of the heritors ever takes place. It may be added, that, at the commencement of winter, the farmers assess themselves in meal to the poor, to be given at a reduced rate, or for nothing; and that Mr Swan at Ponfeith coal-works gives occasionally a donation of coals, which the tenants lead free of expense.

It is not in general thought disgraceful to apply for parochial assistance. Some apply for relief from the poor's funds whose relations are by no means in indigent circumstances. But there are one or two who would rather almost starve than make their wants known.

Fair.—Broughton has an annual fair, held on the 3d of October. It was once a cattle-market, and distinguished by horse and foot races. It is now attended principally for the purpose of hiring servants, paying accounts, and fixing the prices of butter and cheese. The fair is held on the street of the village, and the stalls are overloaded with the produce of the orchards of Clydesdale and other merchandize.

Inns.—Each parish has its own inn. That of Broughton is a

commodious house, with a court of offices in good repair. It forms a convenient stage betwixt Edinburgh and Moffat; and in the parish of Kilbucho a new inn was lately built. Rachan Mill is also a public-house, conveniently situated for the accommodation of the public, as it stands at the junction of the road from Peebles to Moffat with the great road from Edinburgh to Dumfries. There is also an alehouse in the village on a smaller scale.

Fuel.—The distance from fuel is one of the greatest drawbacks on the comforts of the public. The coal is mostly brought from Ponfeith, which is eighteen miles distant from the centre of the parish. Kilbucho moss supplies a number of the farmers there with peat. The thinnings of the plantations in the other two divisions of the parish afford a supply of fuel to a few of the neighbouring poor. The wood is not sold, but given to them gratis. 12 cwt. of coals may be purchased at the mouth of the pit for half-a-crown. The tolls are 1s. more, and when the carriage is paid for, the cart will cost 12s. 6d. When the peat-moss is at a considerable distance from the residence of the consumer, that species of fuel comes nearly as high as coal.

May 1834.

PARISH OF SKIRLING.

PRESBYTERY OF BIGGAR, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JOHN ALPINE, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—THE name has at different periods been written *Scrawline*, *Skirlin*, *Scarlane*, and *Skirling*; but the origin of these various designations cannot now be traced with certainty. The parish is only about two miles and a-half in length, the same in breadth, and approaches nearly to a square. It is bounded on the east by Broughton; on the south by Kilbucho and Biggar; on the west by Biggar; and on the north by Dolphinton and Kirkurd.

The character of its surface is uneven, never rising into any great elevation, and never spreading out into any wide extent of plain. The soil is generally fertile; and with a very few spots excepted, where there is short heather, even those parts which have been undisturbed by the industry of man, are covered with a lively green.

Botany.—One rare plant was discovered about two years ago in this parish, named the *Asperula taurina*. It was found by a medical gentleman in a mouthful of grass plucked by his horse. It was examined by several eminent botanists, who expressed much astonishment at its being found in the open fields, and with difficulty believed that it was not the production of a garden, being found in this high latitude, and so far from the sea coast; where it grew, however, no garden had ever been.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Historical Notices.—Very few facts are known as to the history of this parish. The earliest period to which any known record refers is the reign of King Robert Bruce, who granted to John Monfode the barony of Scrawline, with the advowson of the church; and in this family it seems to have continued a considerable time, for we find that a Margaret Monfode, granted an annuity* of two merks

* Robertson's Hist. Ind. pages 24 and 72.

Sterling, out of the lands of Scrawline, to a chaplain in the church of Dunmarny,—which grant was confirmed by David II. in 1362. From this date there is nothing known till the sixteenth century, when the lands of Skirling, with those of Roberton, Newholm, and Heeds, in the parish of Dolphinton, were in the possession of the Cockburns.* Having passed from them, the barony appears to have descended with rapid succession from one family to another, for about a hundred years. In 1647, it belonged to Sir James Hamilton of Priestfield. Thence it passed to a Sir James Murray, probably one of the Murrays of Stanhope, who then held a powerful sway in this district. “In 1683, David Oswald of Dalders was infeft in the lands and barony of Scrawline.” At the revolution, the estate of Skirling was possessed by a General Douglas of the Queensberry family, who, according to tradition, † fell at the battle of the Boyne. Immediately after this, it was purchased by John first Earl of Hyndford, for his second son, the Honourable William Carmichael, and in that line it has continued ever since, the present sole proprietor of the parish being Sir Thomas Gibson Carmichael of Skirling, Bart. ‡ great-grandson of the Honourable W. Carmichael by Helen, his eldest daughter, married to Sir J. Gibson of Durie.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest parish record is the 6th of July 1654. From that time till the year 1674, the most pointed regularity seems to have been maintained, in recording every transaction connected with the session. Afterwards, to the close of that century, few entries appear to have been made. On the 23d of August 1700, regular registration again commences, and is carried on with care down to the 16th of March 1713, when it is again given up as to every thing except births: and that, too, ceases to be at-

* “In December 1513, a cause was heard by the Lords of Council, against William Cockburn, laird of Scrawline, for taking by violence a part of his own goods, which had been escheated and granted to Mathew Campbell, viz. three verdour beds, an arras bed, three pair of sheets, a buird-claith of Dornik, (a damask table-cloth,) six frocks of Dornik, a linen buird-claith, a feather bed, with a bolster and four cods (pillows), two verdour beds, a pair of fustian blankets, a ruff and curtains, two pair of sheets, one pair of blankets of small white, a feather bed and two saddles, with their reparings, all which goods extend by good estimation to thirty pounds Scottish money.—Parl. Record, page 538.

† The same tradition says, that immediately before his leaving Skirling, he called the inhabitants together. All were alarmed, supposing that in the might of feudal dominancy, which then was little diminished, he was about to draft the stoutest to share in the perils in which he was about to engage; but it was merely to take an affectionate farewell of them, and advise them to the maintenance of brotherly kindness till his return—a return never permitted.

‡ Retour book in the library of the Writers to the Signet; Wodrow's Hist. vol. iv. p. 245.

tended to in the month of April 1719, and in the last entry made the date is omitted. After this there is a complete chasm till 1750, from which period the records are regularly and carefully kept. The population being small, the parochial registers are not voluminous.

Antiquities.—Various ancient coins of the reigns of Adrian and Antoninus were found about twenty years ago near a place called Greatlaws, in the north-east quarter of the parish: they are now in the possession of Laurence Brown, Esq. of Edmonstone, Lanarkshire. Such, we are assured from the recollection of living witnesses who had seen them, were the dates of these coins: but nothing farther can be ascertained, as the original collector is dead, and they, through carelessness, are now intermingled with other similar relics of the past. Near the same spot, when opening up a new communication with the Edinburgh and Dumfries mail-road, about fifteen years ago, the labourers employed came upon some graves of very ancient construction. They had at each side, and at each end, a whinstone flag, and were covered with slabs of the same material. Human bones were found in them, but nothing to elucidate the time or the occasion of their formation.

In another district there are evident traces of a religious establishment belonging to Popish times. The very name by which the farm in which it is situated is at present known bears testimony to this,—Kirklawhill being clearly corrupted from Kirk-land-hill. Part of the ruins still remains. Its extent appears to have been considerable; but with what abbey it might be connected, and whether its chapel might be the one then called Dunmanyn, (Dunmanyn signifies in Celtic the hill of the maiden, or of the good maiden,) to which Margaret Monfode made a bequest for the support of a chaplain, when it flourished, and when it decayed, it is impossible to say, for its history is lost in obscurity.

Of the house or castle of Skirling, to which reference is made in the former Statistical Report, nothing now remains to arrest the stranger's eye. All that might give a melancholy interest to the spot is utterly swept away. Its very foundation-stones, embracing more than a rood of land, are removed, and the plough may be seen passing over, and cattle grazing, where lady fair once sat, and stalwart knight once trode. While, however, it has thus vanished away, something is still known as to the causes and progress of its decline. Its possessor in the sixteenth century, Sir James Cockburn of Skirling, was married to a sister of Lord Herries, and was

not only thus connected with Queen Mary's party, but even had the honourable station assigned to him of holding the castle of Edinburgh in her name, * and was appointed one of her commissioners at the conference at York. The downfall of her power was accordingly ruinous to him, and being deeply involved in the efforts made in behalf of the imprudent and unfortunate queen, he was peculiarly obnoxious to the triumphant party, and, by the command of the Regent Murray, his castle was demolished by a strong military force on the 12th of June 1568; and being thus overthrown it was never afterwards rebuilt and reinhabited, but was left to the destructive energies of time, and the unsparing hand of the spoiler till its desolation was completed. Though the property afterwards belonged to the Cockburns, they returned not to dwell in the ancient home of their fathers, but inhabited, as did likewise some of the succeeding proprietors, a house in the village, which, like its more venerable predecessor, has now also entirely disappeared.

Eminent Men.—Mr Howe, son to the late clergyman of this parish, has attained to high eminence in his profession as a painter. His panoramic representation of the Battle of Waterloo commanded general admiration at the time of its exhibition; and in the department of animal painting he stood for many years without a rival.—Nor must we pass over one who, though he was born, and continued in a humble sphere of life, is entitled to an honourable remembrance. In the disastrous days of the persecution under the cold-blooded Stuarts, Peter Gillies, of the Wauk Mill, Skirling, was one of those who were devoted unto death in the sacred cause. Having had a presbyterian minister preaching in his house, he was, in 1674, hunted from his home by Sir James Murray, the laird, and Mr James Buchan, the curate. For several years he wandered about from place to place. At last he was apprehended in the month of April 1685, at Muiravonside, was carried by the lawless soldiery to the west country, and, after endur-

* The castle of Edinburgh was surrendered to Cockburn of Skirling for the queen. The same day the wind blew away the weathercock of the steeple of St Giles. This, saith Birrel in his Diary, fulfilled an old prophecy,

Quhen Skirlin sall be captain,
The cock sall lose his tail.

In the Life of Queen Mary, by H. G. Bell, Vol. ii. page 168, when reference is made to Anderson, Vol. iv. Part ii. page 33, Sir James Cockburn of Skirling is named among the commissioners: but this is a mistake, arising from the similarity of the orthography, the difficulty of deciphering old records, and from the prominence of the one place in our national history, while the other is almost unknown. Upon examining the original manuscript with this key, and comparing it with collateral facts, it will be found that it was Sir James Cockburn of Skirling.—The present celebrated Solicitor General is, we believe, one of the descendants of this family.

ing many insults, and much cruelty, was, on the 6th of May, executed at Mauchline. “No coffins” (saith the venerable Wodrow *) “were allowed, nor dead-clothes, but the soldiers and two countrymen made a hole in the earth, into which they cast him, together with other four, his fellow-martyrs.”

III.—POPULATION.

1. Dr Webster's Report in 1755 gives a population to this parish of	335
Armstrong's in 1775,	230
Former Statistical Account,	234
Government census in 1801,	308
1811,	310
1821,	345
1831,	358
2. There are residing in the village,	98
In the other parts of the parish,	160
3. Yearly average of births for the last 7 years,	37
of deaths,	3
of marriages,	2½
4. The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	126
upwards of 70,	10
5. There is one fatuous person in the class of persons betwixt 30 and 50.	
6. Number of unmarried men upwards of 50,	6
of women upwards of 45,	8
7. Number of families in the parish,	64
chiefly employed in agriculture,	22
in trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	17

It is worthy of remark, that there is one woman, a widow, in the parish, now in her ninety-fourth year, and that about two years ago the writer of this account met her in her own house, along with her three brothers and her sister, all children of the same father and mother, and all hale and healthy, though their united ages amounted to 438 years.

Character and Habits of the People.—As to the outward circumstances of the people of this parish we must report very favourably. While there are some who can afford to live in the most comfortable manner, there is the absence of every thing like squalid poverty; for, even in our humblest cottages, through the abounding beneficence of Sir Thomas G. Carmichael, poverty in its sterner features is not seen. The general fare of our peasantry, though plain, is agreeable and wholesome: and having in a reasonable degree the means of subsistence, and being enabled to clothe themselves in decent apparel, they show themselves contented with their condition and circumstances. They are at the same time cleanly in their habits, orderly in their deportment, and attentive to the observances, while many of them, I trust, are acquainted with the power, of religion.

During the last three years there has not been a single illegitimate birth in the parish.

* Vol. iv. 245 and 246.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—By a plan of the parish, taken by Mr Bell of Edinburgh, and lying in the possession of the proprietor at Castle-Craig, it appears that the measurement of the parish in Scotch acres is 2642. Of these there are under cultivation 2072 acres; 320 capable of a profitable cultivation, were the markets to become a little more favourable; and 250 incapable of a profitable cultivation; in undivided common, 8; under wood, 27. The trees planted are ash, elm, beech, plane, and fir of different descriptions.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land, per acre, is 15s.; of sheep-walk, 2s. 6d. per acre.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of labour for agricultural purposes is, for hired male-servants, per year, from L. 8 to L. 12; hired female do. in summer, from L. 3 to L. 3, 15s., and in winter, from L. 1, 15s. to L. 2, 5s.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The few sheep kept are of the black-faced description, and form but an inconsiderable item. As stock, they have, we believe, received but little attention; but the dairy being here a principal source of income to the cultivators of the soil, the cows, chiefly of the Ayrshire breed, are objects of great care, and so attentive have the farmers been to their improvement, that at the neighbouring exhibition at Biggar not a few of the prizes annually fall among us.

Husbandry.—The system of cultivation pursued is of the most approved character. The rotation followed is that which has found most favour with experienced and intelligent judges in modern times. Lime, though brought from a distance, is much employed; and draining and irrigation, so far as they are practicable and profitable, are highly popular. From the spirit of activity introduced, there are not many acres remaining unreclaimed which could be cultivated with profit, while grain is so low in price; and there are a few spots now under the plough of a rather thin soil, which perhaps would yield a better return in pasture than in crop.

The farm-buildings, though not so excellent as in some other parts of the country, are in general commodious and suitable to the requirements of their occupants. The leases are ordinarily of nineteen years' duration; and though probably too short where there is much new land to be broken up, they seem sufficiently answerable in the circumstances in which husbandry has already been placed.

Produce.—As to the average gross amount of raw produce, we give the following as a probable approximation to the truth :

Raised in the parish of oats and barley, value	-	L. 3088	0	0
Potatoes and turnips,	-	998	0	0
Pasture,	-	918	0	0
Rye-grass and meadow-hay,	-	610	0	0

Total yearly value of raw produce,	-	L. 5614	0	0
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The present rental of the parish is about L. 1500 a-year: but as nearly one-third of the parish is let on an old nineteen years' lease, a considerable rise may be expected at its termination.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The length of the turnpike roads in the parish is three miles; and there are five bridges. The means of communication are good, as we have excellent roads in all directions. The nearest market-town is Biggar, distant two miles.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is very conveniently situated, the house most distant from it being within two miles. At what time it was built it is impossible to say; but it seems to have undergone large repairs in the year 1720, and is at present in a state of decent repair. It has sittings for upwards of 200 persons: four of these are free; but as the people are very regular in their attendance, some families are complaining of a want of accommodation. Perhaps something might be done to remedy this evil, by a slight alteration of the allocation of seats.

The manse was built in 1803, and is commodious and elegant. The glebe is an excellent one, and has been made so chiefly by the exertions of the present incumbent. In the former Account of the parish, it is stated that the house of Skirling was surrounded by a morass: and when the present manse was erected, it was considered better to fix its site near to this, than to have it in the village, where the former one stood. In consequence of this, an exchange of land was proposed and effected under the authority of the presbytery,—twenty-four acres, from the difference in quality, being given for eight, the extent of the old glebe. This bog, or rather quagmire, (for into various parts of it neither man nor beast could then penetrate,) came thus into the minister's possession, and he, instantly and vigorously commencing a system of draining, and drawing the different springs to one point, from which they flow off in a considerable rivulet, has succeeded in reducing it to a dry and fertile state. A stronger proof of the improvement effected cannot be given, than by the simple statement, that though land generally cannot be rated higher, it was valued by good judges at L. 24 when

transferred to him, but is now worth L. 72 at a moderate calculation. It is now beyond doubt a great advantage to him, and this, with 14 chalders of victual, one half meal and the other half barley, together with L. 8, 6s. 8d. allowed for communion elements, forms the living of the incumbent. The stipend for 1832 amounted to L. 193, 4s.

The number of families and persons attending the Established church, and the chapels of dissenters, is as under:

Number of families attending the Established church,	53
of persons, - - - - -	270
of communicants, - - - - -	160
of families attending Burgher chapel, - - -	6
of persons, - - - - -	21
of families attending Relief chapel, - - -	5
of persons, - - - - -	23

It may here be remarked, that what may be considered as the fluctuating population of the parish, the servants, adds considerably to the numerical strength of the dissenting interest, and that the children of some of the parents who belong to the dissenters are connecting themselves with the Established church.

Education.—There is only one school, the parochial, which, however, is quite sufficient for the accommodation of the parish. The branches of instruction taught in it are English, English grammar, writing, and arithmetic, practical mathematics, geography, Latin, and Greek. The schoolmaster has the full legal accommodations, the maximum salary, and may receive of school fees, on an average, nearly L. 26 per annum. There is a library belonging to the school, formed in 1828, and upheld by public subscriptions and collections. It contains 142 volumes, and appears to be much valued. The annual expense of education is, for English, 10s.; English and writing, 12s.; English, writing, arithmetic, &c. 14s.; Latin, 22s.; Latin and Greek, 24s.

The school is excellently taught and well attended, and if there be any cause of complaint, it is, that parents are too much inclined to take advantage of the improved mode of teaching to shorten the attendance of their children, and thus in some instances sacrifice the substantial benefit of their children for the present saving of a little money. There are only two persons in the parish upwards of 15 years of age who cannot read or write: one of these is from Ireland, and the other fatuous.

Friendly Society.—There is in the parish a friendly society for the mutual benefit of the members in sickness. It was instituted in 1800, and has 78 members. Its stock is L. 128, 2s. 11½d. It

gives an allowance of 3s. a-week for the first sixteen weeks of sickness, and 1s. 6d. a-week thereafter, with this proviso, to prevent injury to the society, that when any person shall have received L. 16, 13s. 8d., his claims shall thenceforth cease and determine. It is evidently a very useful institution, often aiding those in distress who would otherwise be cast upon the fund of common charity; and I have not the smallest doubt that it has a powerful effect in preserving that spirit of independence so beneficial to the interests of our country.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of poor upon the session's roll is five; weekly allowance to each, 1s. 3d.; annual amount of collections made in the church on their behalf, no mortcloth or extra profits included, L. 11, 10s. 6d. This is the only fund from which they are supplied, and any deficiencies that may occur are met by the liberality of Sir Thomas G. Carmichael, the proprietor. The number has been larger than usual for some years, and may be expected to decrease; but the diminution is to be looked for chiefly from the natural effects of time, in the removal of those advanced in life, of whom the list of paupers is at present principally made up, and not, we fear, in any indisposition generally to apply to this source of relief. It is still, without question, considered to a certain extent degrading to come upon the parish, and there are some who would submit to very severe privations ere they would consent to receive public aid; but the feeling of delicacy upon this point is certainly not nearly so intense as it was in former times.

Prisons.—There is a jail in the parish, the proprietor having a baron-bailie appointed, who has the power of imprisoning for forty-eight hours, but fortunately it is required only for holding the mort-safes and other parochial implements.

Fairs.—There are fairs held here on the third Tuesday after the 11th of May, on the first Wednesday after the 11th of June, and on the 15th of September. The first of these is a small market now limited to cattle, but the other two, especially that in June, have a large attendance of queys, cows, and horses, and there is much business done. At a former period we had a fair also on the Tuesday before the 12th of May, which now has no existence save in the almanack, and at a still more remote date the market for sheep, hogs, now held at Linton the day before the third Wednesday after the 11th of June, was held at Skirling. The traces of the bughts are still to be seen, and not long since an aged person died who recollected distinctly his having seen more than once

the bustle of the sheep fair. Why it was removed cannot now be accurately ascertained, but it may possibly be accounted for, in the tendency of the seller in dull times to draw towards the buyer; and about eighty or ninety years ago, the demand being small might induce store farmers to make a nearer approach to those arable districts of the country, where they could secure an outlet for the extra produce of their stock.

Inns.—There are two inns, clean and comfortable, for the accommodation of the people attending the markets.

Fuel.—There is scarcely such a thing as peat, the principal if not sole fuel being coal. It is brought from Douglas and Wilsontown, both places being nearly fourteen miles distant. In consequence of the long drive, it costs when laid down here at the rate of 2s. 4d. per load, or about 8d. per cwt. By the wealthier this evil is not so sensibly felt, but it presses hard upon the poorer class, and were it not for the attention of Sir T. Carmichael in clearing all the direct outlay, and of the tenantry in driving coals for them, they would necessarily and frequently find themselves sufferers from the inclemency of winter.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

In the Statistical Account given by the late Rev. Mr Howe, it is stated that every farmer sowed five or six lippies of flax seed, and those having small possessions and even cottages two or three lippies, but now this article has scarcely a name among the productions of the parish. Cottagers and smaller tenants grow no lint, and it is rarely to be met with on any of the larger farms, as it is considered more profitable to purchase it dressed or manufactured into the fabric than to incur the necessary expenses of raising it at home. The great advance of rent not only intimates that changes favourable to the prosperity of the nation have been passing during the last forty years, but likewise that agricultural industry and improvement have been progressing. The ten smaller possessions around the village which formerly were rented at L. 1 and L. 1, 5s. an acre, now rate as high as L. 3 and L. 4; and the average rental over the whole parish, instead of 4s. is now 15s.; while, from any thing we can learn, the tenant has far less difficulty in answering the money demands made upon him by the proprietor, and has received a mighty addition to his personal, family, and domestic comforts.

But though much has already been done, there are still improvements of great benefit which remain to be accomplished. Within

these thirty years, at great expense, and with much labour in banking and draining, upwards of 100 acres have been raised from a boggy barren condition, yielding a little coarse dry hay, into a very productive state, and, by deepening Biggar water, which lies on the southern boundary, eighteen inches or two feet, up from Broughton bridge, that already reclaimed would be rendered a great deal more fertile, and more would be recovered in this parish, while in those adjacent several hundred acres would be gained. The thing has been proposed, and we have no doubt as to its ultimate accomplishment.

There is another thing which demands attention, and that is the present want of plantations and fences. Were these in greater abundance, while they would afford shelter, a thing greatly needed generally in Scotland, they would likewise render Skirling one of the sweetest parishes in her mountainous domains; nor are we without good expectations that this will not be long overlooked. There are a number of farms let upon tacks of fifty-seven years' duration, and these, unfortunately, are so scattered up and down, as every where to fetter the proprietor in the free-exercise of his pleasure, but they are now drawing to a close; and from the well-known disposition of Sir Thomas Carmichael to do what is for the advantage of his estates, and from what he has actually done on his property in the parish of Kirkurd, we anticipate the period when the ditcher shall be preparing the thorn-bed, and the diker shall be plying his hammer, and the planter his spade, and the bleakness of the unenclosed plain, and the unwooded hill, shall no longer glare upon the eye of the observer.

May 1834.

PARISH OF MANNER.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. JAMES CRUICKSHANK, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—THE name of this parish is at present spelt *Manner* or *Manor* ; but it appears from the parochial registers, of which the earliest entry is dated 1663,—and from a great number of family papers in the possession of the principal heritor, some of which are dated 1573,—that the first-mentioned orthography was established by the usage of centuries, and continued until the publication of the last parochial Account. The origin of the name is uncertain.

The parish extends from S. W. to N. E. nine miles, and averages about three. It is bounded on the N. E. by Peebles ; on the S. E. by Yarrow ; on the S. by Megget ; on the S. W. by Drummelzier ; and on the W. and N. W. by Stobo. The district consists of the vale which is traversed by the stream called “ Manner Water,” and of part of the mountainous range which skirts it on either side.

Topographical Appearances.—The rivulet just named takes its rise among the mountains which bound the parish towards the south, and pursuing a rapid and circuitous course, falls into the Tweed, about two miles above the town of Peebles. Two hills, of which one is wholly and the other partly situated in this parish, stand unconnected with the neighbouring range, and, excepting a similar one in an adjoining parish, are the only hills of this description which are to be found within the limits of the county.

The acclivities of the several hills composing the chain are in general steep ; and some of the cliffs fronting the stream near its source, and approaching closely to each other, are very lofty and precipitous. The outline of the less elevated part of the range is undulating, while the loftiest summits are *round-backed*. The highest peaks are those of Dollar-law and Scrape, from which an extensive view is commanded of the Lothians, Berwickshire, and

the English borders. The former of these eminences, according to Armstrong, is 2840 feet above the level of the sea, and is, therefore, higher than Hartfell in the adjoining parish of Tweedsmuir. The lower part of the range may vary from 1600 to 1900 feet above the sea-level.

Meteorology.—Cold easterly winds often prevail during the spring; but the most prevalent are the S. and S. W. winds,—the position of the hills on either side of the deep valley giving a direction to the current of air, which sweeps down through it as through a funnel, and frequently with terrific violence.

The climate at such a lofty elevation is of course comparatively late, though the harvest in this parish is earlier than in some others which are contiguous,—a fact which may be accounted for by the peculiar position and configuration of the hills, from the steep acclivities of which,—covered in many places with loose stones,—the rays of the sun are reflected in summer with great intensity on the cultivated grounds beneath. The frosts, however, are early and long continued; and the district is exposed to a kind of partial frost in the end of August and beginning of September, which chiefly affects the low-lying lands on the border of the stream. It counterbalances in some degree the disadvantages of the climate, that the air is particularly dry and salubrious, and epidemical diseases are almost unknown to the inhabitants of this parish.

Geology and Mineralogy.—Wherever the rock of which the mountain-range is composed breaks the surface, it consists almost entirely of greywacke. As the rock is exposed but in a few places to such an extent as to admit of accurate and sufficiently numerous observations being made with regard to the position of its strata, which in some localities are variously waved, there is considerable difficulty in distinguishing their *partial* from their *general* direction and inclination. On comparing the results of many particular observations, it appears that the general direction of the strata is north and south, and that they dip to the west, forming an angle of inclination amounting to nearly 45°. A bed of clay-slate, in some places much indurated, ranging from one to five feet in thickness, and preserving the same general direction, dip, and inclination, as those of the circumjacent greywacke, runs across the lower extremity of this parish, and seems to communicate with the slate formation in the adjoining parish of Stobo.

The greywacke has not been quarried to any considerable extent, and few imbedded minerals have been detected.

Very rich specimens of galena have been found in *boulders* in the channel of the stream, and the existence of it *in situ*, in one particular spot, has also been ascertained; but though an attempt to mine it was at one time commenced, it was ultimately abandoned.

From the centre of the vale towards its north-eastern extremity, which is bounded by the Tweed, there occur alluvial deposits of considerable extent, consisting principally of clay and loam. On grounds of every elevation in the parish, but chiefly in the higher districts, and often on a declivity, moss is found deposited in beds varying in depth from one to ten feet,—that part of it which lies lowest being perfectly black and of great solidity, while towards the surface it is in most cases spongy, and of a brownish colour. Along the margin of the stream, the deposits are chiefly of gravel, with an occasional thin stratum of moss, lying on a thick substratum of blue clay.

Soils.—On some of the more elevated pasture-grounds, the soil is principally composed of moss, with a small admixture of sand, and gives sustenance to little beside heath; but the most extensive portion of pasture-ground, and that also which is of greatest elevation, consists of soil but slightly impregnated with moss, and which is favourable to the growth of grasses. These grasses accordingly cover its whole extent, except where, on steep declivities, loose fragments of stone in extensive masses impede vegetation.

Where the hilly ridges begin to decline into the valley, there predominates a thin soil of sand and clay, slightly mingled with loam, resting on a subsoil of gravel; and of this character is a great proportion of the land which has been brought under cultivation.

The clayey and loamy soils, which occupy the flats and the gentle acclivities towards the lower extremity of the parish, are in general of inconsiderable depth.

Zoology.—The following is a list of quadrupeds and birds that have been seen in the parish, which are either rare in Scotland, or the comparative numerical distribution of which it may be desirable to ascertain.

QUADRUPEDS.

Erinaceus Europæus, Hedgehog.
Lepus cuniculus, Rabbit. Not abundant.
—— variabilis, Alpine hare.
Mustela lutra, Otter. Very abundant
a few years ago, but rarer now.
Mustela erminea, Ermine.
—— putorius, Polecat.
—— vulgaris, Weasel. Abundant.
Mus Norvegicus vel decumanus, Brown

rat. The Black rat, *Mus rattus*, is extinct.

Sciurus vulgaris, Squirrel. Introduced on the North Esk from England. Rather rare.

Ursus meles, Badger. Seen occasionally.

BIRDS.

Alcedo ispida, King-fisher. One (a cock) seen last summer, and a pair was shot

three years ago. About thirty years since they were not so rare as they are now.

Anas boschas, Wild duck. Abundant.

— *crecca*, Teal. Very abundant, especially when the winter is severe.

Ardea major, Heron.

Caprimulgus Europæus, Goat-sucker. One shot three years ago.

Falco cyaneus, Blue-hawk or Hen-harrier.

Falco Æsalon, Merlin.

— *Nisus*, Sparrow-hawk.

— *peregrinus*, Hunting-hawk. Builds regularly on Posso Craigs. This was a royal eyrie during the reign of some of the last of the Jameses; and the breed of hawks procured from it was in such high repute as to be esteemed superior to any in Scotland, and equal to the finest brought from Norway.

Falco pygargus. The Ring-tail is the female *Falco pygargus*, and is often mistaken for a different species.

Fringilla Carduelis, Goldfinch. This bird had become very rare here, as it has in most districts of Scotland, but this winter a great number has been seen.

Loxia pyrrhula, Bulfinch. Common.

Phasianus Colchicus, Pheasant. Abundant.

Rallus crex, Corn-rail. Common.

Scolopax arquata, Curlew. Plentiful.

— *gallinago*, Snipe. Do.

— *rusticola*, Woodcock. Rather rare.

Strix flammea, Barn or White owl.

— *otus*, Horned do. Seen not unfrequently.

Strix aluco, Grey do. Frequently seen.

Sturnus cinclus, Water Ouzel.

Tetrao Scoticus, Red Grouse. } abundant.

— *Tetrix*, Black-cock. } ant.

Turdus Merula, Blackbird. }

— *musicus*, Thrush. } numerous

— *pilaris*, Fieldfare. }

— *torquatus*, Ring Ouzel.

Vultur albicilla, more correctly designated *Falco albicilla*, the Earne, once frequented the cliffs at the head of the parish, but disappeared from it several years since.

In a late edition of White's Natural History of Selborne, the editor enumerates several accidental varieties of British birds, among which he had himself seen a mottled blackbird, white crows, a white robin, a white sparrow, and a white jackdaw. Similar varieties of the pheasant have been noticed here for several successive years, some entirely white, and others pied or speckled. Four birds, two of them white and the others variegated, have been seen in the same covey.

Fishes.—Salmon come up the "Manner water" in great abundance to deposit their spawn, about the month of October; and we are afraid that few of them are allowed to return to sea. When the stream has subsided after a flood, and become sufficiently clear to admit of the fish being seen, bands of poachers, armed with their long-shafted tridents, (called "leisters,") may be seen, sometimes during the day, but oftener by the red glare of their torches during the night, beating every foot of the water for their prey, which, after a fatiguing run of sixty miles, are transfixed without much effort at escape. The number of fishes which, from the month of October to that of February, are thus slaughtered in an unwholesome condition, and generally before they have time to spawn, is almost incredible. Upwards to the source of the Tweed, and a considerable way down the river, as well as in many of its tribu-

taries which are of sufficient size to allow the salmon to ascend, this practice prevails,—very partially, if at all, checked by the proprietors, who might be supposed to have an interest in putting into effect the existing laws against such offenders. The fact is,—so few salmon find their way during the open season above the site of the various fisheries on the Tweed, that the proprietors of land situated farther up the river have no interest in their preservation during the period of spawning; and hence this system of poaching continues to check, in an incalculable degree, the increase of this valuable fish, and to encourage the worthless habits of the many idlers who, during the winter months, thus injure their health and dissipate their time.

About fifteen or twenty years ago, this parish was reckoned one of the finest localities in Scotland for angling, but within that period, the notoriety of “Manner water” has attracted so many anglers to its banks, and it has been so often and unsparingly swept by the small hoop and drag-net of the poacher, that except in autumn, when a few salmon and sea-trout make their way up, little is to be found except *pars*, which still swarm in shoals. The fine yellow and dark-coloured *burn* trout, once so abundant in the Manner, are now scarcely to be seen here, except in the deep pools of some of its small tributaries.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Persons.—We are not aware of any very eminent character connected with this parish, unless David Ritchie, the well-known prototype of the “Black Dwarf,” is to be considered as such. With this individual Sir W. Scott became acquainted in the course of his frequent visits at Hallyards, the seat of the late venerable Professor Ferguson. He was buried in the churchyard of Manner: his cottage and garden walls built by himself, and now objects of interest to the tourist, are preserved in exactly the same state as when he died.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners are, James Burnett, Esq. of Barns; Sir John Nasmyth of Posso; Thomas Horsburgh, Esq. of that Ilk; Andrew Ballantine, Esq. of Woodhouse; John Ker, Esq. of Hundleshope; Mungo Campbell, Esq. of Hallyards and Ballenridge.

Parochial Registers.—The earliest entry in these registers, which seem in some respects to have been kept with considerable regularity, is dated 1663.

Antiquities.—There exist within the parish the remains of two

ancient camps, so considerable in extent, and of such distinct configuration, that a circumstantial account of them seems to deserve a place here, especially as the more remarkable of the two does not appear to have been noticed in any previous publication, and as the origin of the other, which has been alluded to by several writers, has been, by all of them, certainly mistaken. The more extensive camp is situated near the farm-house of Cademuir, and must have commanded the pass which diverges from the vale of Manner, and leads eastward in the direction of Peebles. A steep and lofty hill rises on either side of the camp, and at a little distance from it; and a morass, existing within the memory of some of the present inhabitants, extended from the foot of either hill to the extremities of the circumvallations. These last, which are semicircular mounds of earth, and which, by that form, seem to indicate that they are of British or Danish origin, consist of an interior semicircle, measuring about 80 paces from the one extremity to the other, and of four curvilinear fortifications, about 5 paces broad, as many high, and 106 in length. A road, 5 paces in breadth, leads from the centre of the inner semicircle, directly west, and bisects the exterior lines, which are 12 paces apart. If any trenches and mounds corresponding to these and connected with them, existed on the east, they have disappeared.

The other camp occupies a commanding site upon Chester's hill, a steep conical eminence, nearly a mile distant from the intrenchments which we have described. The fortifications consist of loose stones piled upon each other to a breadth varying from 9 to 11 paces, and within the last twenty years, were upwards of 5 feet high. The exterior wall is of an elliptical figure and measures 222 paces in circumference, within which there is another wall of a circular shape, occupying nearly the whole breadth of the circumscribing fortification, and, forming of course two crescents at the extremities of the latter. Within the compass of the circle, the ground seems to have been hollowed out artificially, the excavation deepening towards the centre. In the last Statistical Account of the parish, and in a Gazetteer lately published of some celebrity, these are pronounced to be the remains of a Roman camp: and it is also stated in these publications that an urn containing a quantity of Roman coins was dug out of the ruins several years ago. It is now very difficult to find any of these coins, but one which was examined by the writer of this account proved, to his surprise, to be an English coin, and bore the name of one of

the Edwards, clearly enough impressed around its border. This fact, as well as the form of the circumvallations, which differs from that of all the camps which are certainly known to have been formed by the Romans, and which were invariably quadrilateral, forbids the supposition that the one which we are describing is of Roman origin,—an idea very likely to have been originally suggested by the name “Chesters,” which might seem to be a corruption of the Latin “Castra.”

While upon this subject we may add, that several silver coins of Queen Elizabeth have been found by workmen engaged in making roads near the camp on Chesters hill.

Besides the fortifications already-mentioned, three other circular entrenchments, of much smaller dimensions, are severally visible upon Houndhill, Woodhouse, and Ring-knoll of Hall-Manner; but these appear to have been erected for the protection of live-stock during the incursions of the English, which, owing to the proximity of this district to the borders of England, were very frequent.

There still remain the ruins of some of the fortified residences of the chieftains; which formed a confederate chain of beacon-towers, extending from one extremity of the parish to the other, and from whose fire-proof summits the signals of smoke by day, and fire during the night, proclaimed, in the course of a few minutes, to the whole inhabitants of the vale, the approach of the English moss-troopers. Of these towers, there were originally six, succeeding each other in the following order,—the first mentioned being situated at the head of the parish: Mannerhead, Dollarburn, Langhaugh, Horse-hope-shank, Castle-hill, and Caverhill. This last communicated with Niedpath castle on the Tweed downwards, and with the beacon-tower at Lyne upwards, which was the first in that direction both for Tweed and Lyne “water.” In addition to these, there were houses of defence, (Peel-houses,) at St Gordian’s or Gorgham’s kirk, Old Posso, Glenrath, town of Manner, Woodhouse, and Barns,—the last of which is still preserved entire. That at Posso seems to have been more extensive and modern than the others; and the one at Town of Manner was generally called the Temple House, from the circumstance of it, and part of the adjoining lands, having at one time belonged to the knights of that order.

The route which was pursued by the border freebooters, against whose incursions this defensive system was chiefly adopted, is still distinguished by the name of the “Thief’s Road.” It passes along

the heights of Mannerhead and Dollar-Law to the north end of Scrape, and crossing Tweed below Stobo, runs northward in the direction of Lyne, Newlands, and Linton. Dollar-Law, just mentioned, seems to have derived its name from being the site of a battle, and was popularly called Dolefu' Law or Doleur-Law.

The antiquities which remain to be noticed are, the *Standing Stone*, a rude obelisk, "with uncouth sculpture deck'd," which, having been removed from the situation which it originally occupied, was built into the wall by the side of the parish road, and is supposed to be an aboriginal monument; the "Font Stone" which stood in St Gordian's chapel "while yet the church was Rome's," but was afterwards removed to mark the spot where three lairds' lands met; the "Giant's Grave," a tumulus which has never been opened; and, lastly, "some appearance of a building," says Armstrong, "on the summit of Woodhill, called *Macbeth's Castle*," but which, that statist, in despair of making any thing of the vague popular tradition respecting the famed Scottish tyrant, believes to have been consecrated for the worship of Woden by the Druids, whose memory cannot be held in sufficient reverence, for the relief which they afford to many a puzzled antiquary.

III.—POPULATION.

1. In 1755, the whole number of persons in the parish amounted to	320
and in 1791, to	229
In 1811, it amounted to	302
In 1821, to	324
In 1831,	254
2. The yearly average of births for the last four years,	9
of deaths,	25 $\frac{7}{8}$
of marriages,	23 $\frac{1}{4}$
3. The average number of persons under 15 years of age,	95
betwixt 15 and 30,	81
betwixt 30 and 50,	48
betwixt 50 and 70,	12
upwards of 70,	2
4. Number of unmarried men, bachelors and widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	6
5. Number of families,	41
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	34
in trade and manufactures,	6
Average number of children in each family,	5
6. The number of proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards,	2

Character of the People.—From the nature of their employments shepherds have occasionally a good deal of leisure, which that class of individuals in this parish (and they form a very remarkable part of its population) devote to the improvement of their minds by reading, instead of indulging in idleness or immorality: and of them, and of the people in general, it may be justly said, that their cha-

racter, intellectual as well as moral, stands deservedly high. They testify a deep and habitual regard to the public ordinances of religion; and there appears to be good reason for believing, that the “form of godliness,” which is so prevalent among them, is intimately and extensively associated with its “power.” Such is their general character: but it must be added, that 3 illegitimate births have occurred in the parish during the last three years.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

The number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish, which are either cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is	-	-	-	-	1630
The number of acres that might be cultivated with a profitable application of capital,	-	-	-	-	200
Number of acres under wood,	-	-	-	-	400

The number of acres in pasture cannot be correctly stated.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land in the parish may be estimated at L. 1, 5s. per acre. The average rent of grazing a full-grown sheep, pastured for the year, 5s. At the time of the last Statistical Account, the rental of the parish was L. 1685; now it is L. 4145.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—A large proportion of the sheep in the parish, which amount in whole to about 7400, is of the *black-faced* or mountain breed; but some of the farmers have introduced a cross-breed between these and the Cheviot stock, and the former have thus been very much improved. Upwards of a third of the whole stock in this parish consists of the breed formed by this cross. During the last war, when high prices were obtained for the wool of Cheviot sheep, an attempt was made to domesticate this species, on the higher and more exposed pasture-grounds, but, in consequence of their delicacy, they were not found to thrive. It is thought, that if care had been taken to *breed in* the stock gradually, the experiment would have met with that success which has attended it when made in some similar districts. The short-horned breed of cattle introduced by Mr Burnett of Barns is now in great demand.

Since the publication of last report, very extensive improvements have been made in draining and reclaiming waste land. At the period alluded to, there were very few enclosures; but at present, the whole of the land which is of good quality is well enclosed and subdivided. Irrigation has been successfully practised to some extent.

The great improvements which we have alluded to as having

taken place in the agricultural state of the parish have been principally brought about by Mr Burnett, to whom a third part of the property in it belongs. Besides greatly ameliorating his land by draining and fencing in the most admirable manner, he has reclaimed an immense portion of waste ground, and planted more than two-thirds of the whole wood in the parish. The very extensive farm of Haswellsikes, belonging to this gentleman, and farmed by himself, deserves to be especially noticed, as exhibiting, perhaps, the finest model of agricultural management which is to be seen in the county.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows :

255 qrs. of wheat,	-	-	-	-	L. 637	10	0
500 do. barley,	-	-	-	-	700	0	0
500 do. peas,	-	-	-	-	650	0	0
1000 do. oats,	-	-	-	-	900	0	0
828 bolls potatoes, at 7s. per boll,	-	-	-	-	289	16	0
139 acres turnip, at L. 2 10s. per acre,	-	-	-	-	347	10	0
10400 stons meadow-hay, at 3d. per stone,	-	-	-	-	130	0	0
2720 stons clover-hay, at 6d.	-	-	-	-	68	0	0
					<hr/>		
					L. 3722	16	0

The number of sheep pastured in the parish is 7400 ; of cattle, 300 ; of horses, 72.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—The inhabitants have access, by means of a good parish road, to the market-town of Peebles, which is not above a mile and a-half distant from the north-eastern extremity of Manner.

There are four stone bridges in the parish, the largest of which crosses the Manner water a few hundred yards above the spot where that stream falls into the Tweed.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is situated inconveniently for the population,—being not more than one mile from the lower extremity of the parish, while the other extremity is not less than eight miles distant from it. The time at which it was built cannot be ascertained. Though very old, it is in a tolerably good state of repair. It is capable of affording accommodation for 150 persons.

The principal part of the manse was built upwards of twenty years ago. The glebe is thirty acres in extent, and, under proper management, might be worth from L. 35 to L. 40. The stipend

amounts to L. 113, 3s. 1½d. of money ; 23 bolls, 2 firlots, 2 pecks, ½ lippie of barley, and the same quantity of meal.

The number of families attending the Established church is 30 ; of persons of all ages attending that church, 120 ;* of persons of all ages attending the chapels of Dissenters and Seceders, 38 ; of Episcopalians, 7 ; of Roman Catholics, 2.

Considering the very inconvenient situation of the Established church, Divine service there is very well attended.

The average number of communicants at the Established church is 65.

Education.—The parochial teacher has L. 30 of salary, and L. 14 arising from school fees, together with the legal accommodations.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The average number of persons receiving parochial aid is 4 ; the average sum allotted to each per week, 3s. ; the annual amount of contributions for the relief of the poor, L. 15. Of this sum, about L. 8, 10s. are collected in the church ; L. 3 arise from occasional contributions, and the remainder is supplied by the interest of L. 184, which is the amount of our existing poors' fund.

Inns, Alehouses, &c.—There is not a single inn or alehouse in the parish.

Coal is the kind of fuel principally used in this parish. It is generally procured either from White-hill, in Mid-Lothian, or from Wilsonton, in the upper ward of Lanarkshire. When brought here it costs about 1s. per cwt.—two-thirds of the expense being occasioned by the carriage. Though there is abundance of peat, of good quality, in various parts of the parish, very little of it is used by the inhabitants for fuel.

* It deserves to be mentioned, that besides these there are some who frequently attend the Established church, but who communicate with the Dissenters or Seceders.

May 1834.

PARISH OF STOBO.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND Tweeddale.

THE REV. ALEXANDER KER, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent and Boundaries.—THE extent of the parish was increased after the parish of Dawick was suppressed in 1742, on which occasion a part of that parish was annexed to Stobo, and the other part of it to the parish of Drummelzier. The length is 7 miles, and the greatest breadth $5\frac{1}{4}$. It contains $17\frac{9}{10}$ square miles. It is bounded on the west and east by the waters Biggar and Lyne; on the north and south by the hills, or what is termed the waterfalls of the ranges of hills, which run parallel to the river Tweed. From the range of hills on the north of the bank, there are three lower ranges of hills which run to the south, forming valleys between, with streams of water flowing into the Tweed.

The hills forming these several ranges have separate names. The highest are the Pyked Stane, 1884 feet, Benvalla 1850, Binlīga 1692, Flint hill 1621 above the level of the sea. They do not appear high, as they rise from a high level. The foot of Pyked Stane, where the Stobo burn has its course, is 700 feet above the level of the Tweed, where the burn joins it, so that the burn falls 700 feet in five miles.

Meteorology.—There is nothing particularly deserving of remark in the parish under this head. Among the prognostics of weather may be mentioned only one, which is common of course to other districts. Goats are said to have a peculiarly instinctive perception as to the change of weather. Though they delight to browse amongst rocks and high cliffs picking up herbs and eating shrubs, of which they have a peculiar relish, yet they are never caught in this exposed situation during a storm. If you wish to find them, search for a *biold* or sheltered corner, or recess in the neighbourhood, where they have taken up their quarters, and bid defiance to the blast.

Shepherds of observation, who attend to the manner in which their sheep conduct themselves previous to an approaching storm, remark that their old sheep or ewes (for the hogs are dull and stupid,) have a presentiment of change of weather.

Hydrography.—There are many perennial springs, some of which flow from the earth, and others from rocks. Their temperature is 46°; they are very clear, but not very large, and none of them so far impregnated with any mineral or chemical substances as that these become distinguishable by the taste or smell.

Tweed is the largest river in the parish. It has its source in the parish of Tweedsmuir, at a fountain called Tweedswell, about seventeen or eighteen miles above the uppermost part of the parish. It is upwards of twenty yards broad, and on an average about one foot and a-half deep at the fords. It enters the parish where Biggar water joins it, and at the junction is 615 feet above the level of the sea. It leaves the parish where the Lyne water joins it, and at the junction is 550 feet above the level of the sea. It runs either through or along the parish for seven miles. Its declivity is about twelve feet per mile.

Geology and Mineralogy.—There is a bed of clay-slate in the parish which has been worked for centuries. It is of excellent quality, and resembles much the slate from the quarries of Ballachulish in Argyleshire. Its direction is from west to east, and it dips to the south-east. All the other rocks are greywacke, more or less distinctly stratified.

The slate and greywacke rocks (whinstone) have been only worked where they crop out on the surface, and where there is little or no soil covering them.

Soil.—The soil is generally light and gravelly, abounding with numerous water-worn stones, especially in the valley of Tweed. In some parts the soil is clay, especially on the north parts of the hills, and in the best parts at the bottom of the hills. The alluvial soil in the haughs of Tweed is various, part being carse-land, part sandy or gravelly, evidently the deposit of the river, or what was at one time the bed of the river.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Accounts, &c. of the Parish.—The only account of the parish, besides the former Statistical Account, is to be found in a publication entitled “A Companion to Armstrong’s Map of the County of Peebles,” published in 1775. Sir Alexander Murray, once a proprietor of Stobo estate, which comprehends now three-fourths of the parish, had a plan of it made and engraved about the year 1734, which is correct, and gives the heights of many of the hills.

Eminent Persons.—Sir Alexander Murray, Bart. who resided in the parish during part of the incumbency of my predecessor, was possessed of a most enterprising spirit, and carried on improvements

on his estate with an ardour and a taste scarcely equalled among his contemporaries. I must mention also the late Lord Chief Baron Montgomery, of his Majesty's Exchequer in Scotland, who was distinguished not only as an enterprising purchaser and improver, but for his great spirit in public undertakings, being always forward in encouraging every measure that could contribute to the advantage and improvement of the county of Tweeddale, over which he long presided in all matters of public concern. His remains are deposited in the family burying ground in the churchyard of Stobo.

Land-owners.—The chief land-owners in the parish are Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, Bart.; Sir John Nasmyth of Posso, Bart.; the Right Honourable the Earl of March and Wemyss; and William Gray, Esq. of Brown's Lands.

Parochial Registers.—The date of the earliest entry of the parochial register of births, marriages, and deaths is in the year 1653; since that period a register has been regularly kept, and the principal events in the parish briefly recorded.

Antiquities.—On Sheriffmuir there are two large stones three feet in height and six feet distant from each other, which are supposed to mark the grave of some chief who had there fallen in battle. There are also two cairns of stones on this muir, and single stones about a foot in height planted at regular distances, which some suppose to have been planted to perpetuate the memory of some person of distinction, while others regard them as relics of Druidical temples.

There is also to be seen in this muir a large round cavity in the form of a basin, called *Pinkie's Hole*. It is about ninety paces in circumference; and at the time when the former Statistical Account was written, it was at the centre between six and seven feet below the level of the adjacent plain; but the depth is now considerably less, from the decay of the luxuriant crops of grass in the inside,—the grass in the inside being far more luxuriant than on the rim of the cavity, probably from the soil being enriched by the decay of the bodies therein buried, of those who had fallen in battle.

This muir, being both central for the county and well adapted for mustering the Tweeddale militia whilst the unfortunate animosities subsisted between the sister kingdoms, was the place where the sheriff-depute was accustomed to summon them to appear before him on a certain day and at an appointed hour; hence it was called the Sheriff-muir, and still retains the name.

Modern Buildings.—Stobo Castle is the chief modern building in the parish. The materials generally used for building are whin-

stones for the body of the buildings, ornamented according to taste or fashion with freestone.

III.—POPULATION.

The state of the population previous to the year 1734 cannot be traced with any degree of certainty, but from various circumstances there is reason to believe the population is now partly diminished,—but from what causes it is not so easy to determine.

In 1811, the population was	422
1821, - - -	413
1831, - - -	440
The yearly average of births for the last 7 years,	- - - - 5
of burials in the parish,	- - - - 4
of marriages,	- - - - 3
The average number of persons at present in the parish under 15 years of age,	198
upwards of 70,	8
Number of bachelors and widowers upwards of 50 years of age,	- - - 6
of widows and unmarried women upwards of 45,	- - - 4

The number of families in the parish is 85; whereof 41 are chiefly engaged in agriculture; 8 in trade, manufactures, and handicraft; and 36 not belonging to either of these classes.

The only individual of independent fortune resident in the parish is Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, Bart.; but there are four proprietors of land in the parish of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

Character of the People.—My residence amongst them has been for upwards of sixty years. I have known in the parish many respectable, benevolent, and kind-hearted parishioners. They are gone, and I have mourned their loss. Yet they have left behind them successors to whose integrity of life and manners I am happy to have the opportunity to bear testimony. There is, in one word, perhaps, no parish where the moral character and conduct of the people are in all respects more uniformly unexceptionable.

During the last three years there have been, however, two illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

The number of imperial acres cultivated or occasionally in tillage, is	-	1255
Capable of being cultivated with a profit,	- - - -	711
In pasture, including hill ground,	- - - -	10,030
In undivided common,	- - - -	0
Under wood, planted,	- - - -	587

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land, per acre, in the parish is L. 1. The average rent of grazing, per ox or cow, for the year, L. 3, 10s. The average rent of ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured on the hills for one year, 5s.; on the valleys or improved ground for one year, 10s.

Rate of Wages.—The rate of labour during the summer, per week,

for farm-labourers, or labourers at the high roads, is 10s. ; and in the winter, per week, 9s., they finding their own victuals. Carpenters are paid at the rate of 1s. 6d. per day, summer and winter, with their victuals. Tailors are paid at the same rate. Masons are paid 2s. 6d. per day, but maintain themselves.

Husbandry.—All the farms in the parish are stocked with the Cheviot breed of sheep, except two, which are stocked with the black-faced. In some farms the breeds of cattle have been of late improved by crossing them with the Tees-Water and Ayrshire breeds. The state of farm-buildings in the parish is generally good : and the greater part of the arable ground, which is generally ploughed, is enclosed with stone dikes. The duration of leases is nineteen years.

Produce.—The average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish, as nearly as that can be ascertained, is as follows :

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals, 3600 bolls.

37 acres potatoes, at L. 6 per acre.	-	-	-	-	L. 222	0	0
138 acres, turnips, at L. 3, 10s. per acre,	-	-	-	-	483	0	0
5590 stones of hay, at 4d. per stone,	-	-	-	-	93	3	4
					L. 798	3	4

As to the produce of land in pasture, there are 1330 acres in that state. It may be rated at L. 2, 10s. per cow or full-grown ox, grazed, or that may be grazed for the season ; at 10s. per ewe or full-grown sheep, pastured or that may be pastured for the year.

Annual thinning and periodical felling of woods, plantations, and copse,	60	0	0
Quarries,	60	0	0

The real rental of the parish is L. 2847.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There is a communication between Peebles and Stobo weekly, by a carrier, who passes through the parish ; and between Edinburgh and Stobo weekly by the same means. There is no post-office nearer than Peebles or Rachan Mill. There are two turnpike roads in the parish, one of which extends towards the west about four miles nearly along the side of the river Tweed ; the other upwards of three miles, till it joins Kirkurd parish on the north-west, and Newlands on the north-east.

Over Lyne water there are three bridges at a short distance from each other ; and on Biggar water, the boundary between Stobo and Broughton parishes, there is a bridge,—all of which are kept in good repair.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church is a Gothic structure of great antiquity, and has been evidently erected in times of Popery. For a long time the building afforded insufficient and uncomfortable accommodation ; but these defects have now been completely re-

medied. It affords accommodation to upwards of 200 sitters. There are no free sittings. The manse was built in the year 1791. The glebe is subdivided, and enclosed with stone dikes and hedges. It contains about twenty-one acres of arable land, each acre worth about L. 1, 10s. per annum. To make up the stipend to L. 150, exclusive of communion elements, it was necessary to apply to the Exchequer fund for L. 12, 13s. 1d. There are also ten bolls of oatmeal which the minister of Stobo draws from Sir John Nasmyth, as his half share of the glebe and grass of Dawick, and a servitude which he has on the Harrow and Stobo Hope of six days of a man's casting turfs.

The number of dissenters in the parish is about 34. The average number of communicants in the parish church is 154.

Education.—The parochial school is the only school in the parish. Besides the usual branches, Latin is sometimes taught there. The salary is L. 32. The school fees amount annually to about L. 11. As an encouragement to the people to attend, Sir James Montgomery pays the school fees of every boy or girl of a family when the numbers that attend the school out of each family exceed two. The school fees for teaching to read English, for one year, are 4s. 6d.; for English and writing, 6s.; for arithmetic, including English, 7s. 6d.; for Latin, 12s. The schoolmaster's accommodations are good. There is no person in the parish upwards of fifteen years of age who cannot both read and write.

Poor.—There are at present nine or ten paupers receiving parochial aid, each receiving upon an average L. 3, 5s. per annum. Their relief arises from the collections in the church, averaging about L. 12 per annum, and from the sum of L. 545, which has been realized by savings from church collections.

As to the feelings of paupers in regard to their receiving aid from poors' funds, these of course are different in different individuals. I may state, as illustrative of the depraving effects of a dependence on this sort of charity, the case of one pauper, who at one time was so shocked at the debasing idea of being indebted for relief out of the poors' box, that she told me that she would rather work "till the blood came out at her finger points;" but now this woman is the most clamorous for relief of all that are on the poors' roll.

Fuel.—Coals are the chief staple article for fuel in the parish. They are brought either from the Lothians, Douglas coal-hill, or Wilsonton, in the west country.

May 1834.

PARISH OF KIRKURD.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. DAVID ANDERSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name—Boundaries.—ACCORDING to Chalmers in his Caledonia, the word Kirkurd was formed by prefixing the Scoto-saxon *Kirk* to *Urd*, the Celtic name of the place, signifying 'an eminence or height. This seems the most probable derivation of the name. The length of the parish from east to west is $5\frac{1}{2}$ English miles, and its breadth from north to south is from 3 to 4 miles. It is bounded by Broughton, Skirling, Dolphington, Linton, Newlands, and Stobo.

Topographical Appearances.—The highest hill in the parish is called Hell's Cleugh, which, according to Armstrong, is 2100 feet above the level of the sea. On the summit of this hill there is a small cairn called the *Pyked Stane*, the boundary of three parishes, Stobo, Broughton, and Kirkurd. This cairn commands a very extensive view. Towards the north-west, the view extends as far as Dumbartonshire, and towards the east as far as the Eildon hills, near Melrose, and the Cheviot hills in Northumberland.

Hydrography.—There is a copious sulphureous spring near Castlecraig. The late celebrated Dr Black, Professor of Chemistry, in the University of Edinburgh, from a chemical analysis, ascertained its water to be stronger than the sulphureous water at Moffat, but weaker than that at Harrowgate. It has been used with success in several diseases. The water Tath flows along the north of the parish, and divides it from Linton and Newlands. This is the only stream in the parish.

The lands in this parish, though in general high, being betwixt 600 and 700 feet above the level of both the east and west sea, are notwithstanding healthful—the soil being for the most part gravelly. The soil appears to be well adapted for the growth of timber of various kinds, and a great deal of wood has been planted,

which tend much to beautify and improve the country. The prevailing winds are from the south-west, and the heavy rains are immediately absorbed. Rheumatism is the most prevalent distemper.

Geology.—The prevailing rocks in this parish appear to belong to the transition class.

Not long ago, in digging for marl in the Mount bog, several horns of the elk, in a high state of preservation, were found. It is conjectured that there must have been a lake at one time in that place, perhaps in a semifluid state, and that the deer running into it when pursued by the hunters had perished. In proof of there having been a lake, it may be mentioned, that, in boring for marl in another part of the bog, there were found several hazel-nuts by no means in a decayed state. The discovery of these horns affords one, among many other proofs, that this country must have abounded in former times very much in wood.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Men.—James Geddes of Rachan, whose ancestors possessed the large estate of Kirkurd for a long course of years, was born in this parish in the year 1710. He was educated for, and practised several years at, the bar, and was to have been appointed to the Bench of Judges. He died of consumption before he arrived at the age of forty. He published an Essay on the Composition and Manner of Writing of the Ancients, and left behind him several other tracts.

It is recorded in history, that, at the close of the civil wars with the Douglasses in the reign of James II., Sir David Scott of *Kirkurd* and Buccleuch obtained great gifts of land for his clan's service and his own at the battle of Arkinholme, in the valley of Esk, where the brothers of Douglas and his followers received a severe defeat, and that the possession of this landed property was the commencement of that course of greatness which afterwards raised his family to the dukedom.

Land-owners.—There are four proprietors in this parish, the principal of whom are Sir Thomas G. Carmichael, Bart. of Skirling, and John Lawson, Esq. of Cairnmuir. The former gentleman is patron of Kirkurd, and possesses several valuable estates in other parishes. His estates formerly belonged to John Earl of Hyndford, his grand-uncle. They are entailed in the male line.

Parochial Registers.—With regard to these, it may be stated, that three books exist containing part of the records of the kirk-session. The first begins in September 23, 1705, and ends Fe-

bruary 23, 1707; the second begins November 10, 1717, and ends July 12, 1724; the third begins January 3, 1725, and ends July 30, 1738. The registers have been regularly kept from October 27, 1742, to the present time.

Antiquities.—Several stones of a circular form are standing in the neighbourhood of old Harestanes, supposed to have been erected by the Druids for religious purposes.

Near Castlecraig house are two mounts called the Castle and the Law, supposed to have been sepulchral barrows of ancient construction, though afterwards used as stations for the administration of justice to a rude people. To the east of these is a circular fortification, on an eminence near Ladyurd, called the Rings, and another to the west called the Chesters. They are supposed to have been military erections.

At Mount-hill, about the year 1754, a stone chest enclosing a large clay urn containing human bones was found. And more recently there was found at the bottom of the same hill a stone coffin $4\frac{1}{2}$ feet long, $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet wide, and $2\frac{1}{2}$ feet deep, which contained human bones, among which were discovered three flint stones,—one resembling a halbert; another of a circular form; and the third of a cylindrical form, with a small ring, supposed to have been a Druidical amulet. In another part of the parish, there was also found a few years ago another stone coffin, formed of a great many stones rudely put together, and containing human bones.

Modern Buildings.—Castlecraig, the seat of Sir Thomas G. Carmichael, is an elegant and commodious mansion-house, erected by Sir John G. Carmichael, and enlarged and beautified by the present proprietor. The garden and pleasure grounds are very extensive, and tastefully laid out. The house at Cairnmuir, belonging to John Lawson, Esq. is also an excellent one, and well fitted for the accommodation of a large family.

III.—POPULATION.

Population in 1801,	-	327
1811,	-	387
1821,	-	352
1831,	-	318

The population of 1831 is now considerably less than when the last census was taken, owing to the two principal proprietors not being resident in the parish.*

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	57
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	46
handicraft,	-	-	-	7

* Since the above was written, the heritors have returned, and the population may be about 360.

2. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	8
of deaths, betwixt	-	3 and 4
of proclamations, betwixt	-	6 and 7

Owing to the prodigious increase of machinery of late years, which greatly lessens the price of various articles, very little wool or lint is spun at home, and the general practice is to purchase every thing from the merchant. And, indeed, still fewer articles will hereafter be manufactured at home, because, in reality, no profit is derived from the system. The people in a reasonable degree may be said to enjoy the comforts and advantages of society; and, accordingly, it may be mentioned that no emigrants to foreign countries have gone from this parish.

During the last three years there have been four or five illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—By actual measurement the parish was found to contain 6620 English acres. It has been plausibly supposed that these may be divided into three nearly equal parts, *1st*, land that is at present under cultivation; *2d*, land that may be cultivated or improved: *3d*, land that is solely adapted for sheep-pasture. Under the second of these divisions, however, are included nearly 600 acres which have been planted; and the remaining 1620 acres must merely be considered as what it is possible to make arable, not what may be advantageously cultivated. This last point cannot properly be determined; only we may safely assert, that the number of acres that might with profitable application of capital be added to the cultivated land is very small. In fact, in some instances too great a desire has been manifested to bring high ground into cultivation, and it may be questioned whether the farmer has received a proper indemnification for the expense incurred.

This parish has derived great benefit from the attention that has been paid to the growth of timber. The plantations belonging to Sir Thomas G. Carmichael and Mr Lawson are extensive, and are in a flourishing state. Sir Thomas, indeed, has done incalculable service to the parish by his numerous plantations. These have wonderfully improved the climate, and beautified the country. In this county much may yet be done in the way of planting trees; and proprietors would receive a proper remuneration, for it cannot be disputed that the plantations on the hills tend to improve the lower grounds.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of men-servants for the year are

betwixt L. 11 and L. 13; and of women-servants betwixt L. 5 and L. 6 for the same period. The wages of women-servants are much higher in summer than in winter, owing, no doubt, to the greater amount of labour to which they are subjected in the one season than in the other.

Husbandry.—All kinds of grain excepting wheat and beans are raised, and it is found that the more early kinds suit better than the later. Wheat, indeed, has been attempted, but this so partially, as scarcely to merit notice.* The green crop cultivation is much attended to, and potatoes and turnips are generally of excellent quality. The dairy system is carried on here to a considerable extent, and it has been said that the farmers are nearly enabled to pay their rents from the produce of their cows.

The plan of irrigating meadow ground has been adopted in some places in the parish very successfully.—It has been ascertained that some water meadows have produced on an average about 400 stones of hay per acre, reckoning 22 lbs. to the stone.

As to the duration of leases, it may be stated, that all farms, with a few exceptions, are let for nineteen years, and if they are let on an average at 20s. per acre, both landlord and tenant are considered as equally benefited.

Very little can be said in praise of the farm-buildings in the parish. These are commonly taken by estimate, and the lowest is generally preferred. Hence the farm-houses are rather superficially built. It has now, however, become customary for the tenants themselves to drive materials for the buildings, and this no doubt tends, with as little cost as formerly to the proprietor, to secure a more substantial and comfortable erection.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, as nearly as can be ascertained, is as follows:

Oats, 2392 bolls at 15s. per boll,	.	.	.	L. 1794	0	0
Barley, 258 bolls at 22s. per boll,	.	.	.	283	16	0
Pease, 50 bolls at 16s. per boll,	.	.	.	40	0	0
Turnips, 113 acres at L. 4, 10s. per acre,	.	.	.	508	10	0
Potatoes, 33 acres, 40 bolls per acre, at 8s. per boll,	.	.	.	528	0	0
Hay, cultivated, 12,000 at 6d. per stone,	.	.	.	300	0	0
Hay, meadow, 11,000 at 3d. per stone,	.	.	.	137	10	0
Sheep, 2000 at 6s. each,	.	.	.	600	0	0
Black cattle, Ayrshire breed,—240 at L. 3 each,	.	.	.	720	0	0
Wood disposed of,	.	.	.	215	0	0
				<hr/>		
				L. 5126	16	0

The above may be considered a pretty accurate account of the

* It was found not to succeed, owing, probably, to the high situation, &c.

annual produce, and in connection with this, we now state that the real rental of the parish may be about L. 1900 yearly. The land, upon the whole, is well cultivated. The improved system of husbandry has been adopted, and good crops in general are produced.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-Towns, and Means of Communication.—There is no village in the parish, and the nearest-market towns are Biggar and Peebles, the one seven and the other ten miles distant from the church. The parish enjoys abundant means of communication, the great public road betwixt Edinburgh and Dumfries, &c. passing through it, and also the road betwixt Glasgow and Peebles, &c. The length of the turnpike roads are betwixt seven and eight miles, and they are kept in excellent repair. There are three principal bridges, all of which are in pretty good condition.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the church is convenient for the bulk of the population, the distance from one extremity being two and a-half miles, and from the other about three. It was built in 1766, and is fitted for accommodating about 300 people. The interior is upon the whole pretty comfortable. The sittings are all free, every farmer in the parish being entitled to a seat in the church for himself and family.

We understand that in 1116 there belonged to the Bishoprick of Glasgow in Kercayrd one carucate of land and a church. This church was confirmed to the bishops of Glasgow by the bulls of Pope Alexander in 1170 and 1178, and by the bulls of Lucian and Urban in 1181 and 1186. The church of Ord was afterwards given to the hospital of Sottra *in proprios usus*, and continued with it till 1462, when Mary of Gueldres transferred it to the Trinity church of Edinburgh, upon condition that the sacrist of the collegiate church of the Trinity should keep in repair the church of Kirkurd. It is a curious fact, that in 1384 Sir James Douglas of Dalkeith founded near his castle a chapel, which he endowed with the lands of Lochard, and 40s. out of the lands of Kirkurd in Peebles-shire.

It would appear that the church of Kirkurd must have been a vicarage in Roman Catholic times, for we are told that in 1477 William Chamber, the vicar of Kirkurd, granted some lands in the manor of Corstorphine and various annual rents for supporting a chaplain to officiate at St Ninian's altar in Corstorphine church; and that this endowment was confirmed in 1477 by James III.

It may be proper to mention, that during the prevalence of the

keen discussions regarding church government, the minister of Kirkurd, Mr John Bennet, was sent as one of the commissioners from the Presbytery of Peebles to the famous assembly that convened at Glasgow in 1638, where Henderson was moderator, and where Episcopacy was abolished.

There is only one place of worship in the parish, and those who dissent from the Established church generally attend a Relief chapel in the parish of Newlands.

The average number of communicants for many years past may be about 160. The sacrament is dispensed annually, and the people are very regular in attending upon it.

The manse was built in 1788, and has once or twice undergone some trifling repairs. It is too small, and inferior to the generality of manses. The extent of the glebe is about nineteen acres, nearly all arable. When the present incumbent was settled in 1787, a new glebe was given, and as part of the land was very indifferent, this accounts for the glebe being larger than usual. It has been much improved by manuring, draining, and by its being enclosed. The present minister was once in the habit of letting it, and one year received a rent of L. 30, with a cow's grass.

The parish was valued at an early period, and was found to be no more than L. 1108, 15s. 4d. Scotch money. The stipend from the heritors is about L. 70, and as the teinds are exhausted, more than double is received from the Exchequer to make it amount to L. 150.

Education.—There is one public school in the parish, attended on an average by about forty scholars, but often by more, from its vicinity to other parishes. Occasionally there are a few scholars instructed in Latin and Greek, and practical mathematics. The teacher has the maximum salary. The school-fees fixed by the heritors and minister are 2s., 2s. 6d., and 3s. per quarter. These may amount annually to L. 12. The dwelling-house for the school-master is very small, there being only a kitchen and one small room. There is scarcely an individual upwards of twelve years of age in the parish who cannot both read and write, and the people are alive to the benefits of education.

Library.—A parish library was instituted in 1810, and is upon the whole in a flourishing state. A school library was likewise founded in 1828.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—The weekly collections in the church are found more than sufficient to supply the ordinary poor

in a purely agricultural parish, where there is no village and no manufactories. These collections vary considerably at different times. When the heritors' families are resident, they are sometimes 9s. or 10s., and 2s. 6d. may be considered as the average at other times. Occasionally, collections are made for religious and charitable purposes, and the people in general contribute liberally enough. It may be right to mention, that there was at one time a capital of about L. 400, which by extraordinary expenditure, as in the payment of a schoolmaster's salary for several years, the building of a house for the church-officer, the maintaining of a widow with a large family, and by purchasing mort-safes, enclosing the schoolmaster's garden, erecting an iron gate to the churchyard, and occasionally repairing the church, painting the same, &c. is now reduced to less than L. 200. At an average for several years past the disbursements for the poor have been about L. 40 annually; and the number of persons receiving aid yearly has been six. It may be safely stated, that there is little danger of any assessment ever becoming necessary in this parish. To the credit of the people it may be mentioned, that a highly laudable and independent spirit exists among them, and that they will not have recourse to parochial assistance except from absolute necessity. They very generally avail themselves of the advantages arising from Savings Banks, established in different parts of the county.

Inns.—There is one inn in the parish, chiefly for the accommodation of travellers.

Fuel.—Coals are generally used. The nearest are six miles distant, and can be procured, including carriage, &c. for nearly 10s. per common cart, containing about 12 cwt. The people in general, however, prefer getting their coals from Douglas, and the neighbourhood of Carnwath, because, though at a great distance, they are reckoned excellent in quality.

Friendly Society.—A Friendly Society was many years ago established in the parish; but, owing to its not being founded on proper principles, and to the want of efficient management, it has become extinct.

May 1834.

PARISH OF NEWLANDS.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LoTHIAN AND Tweeddale.

THE REV. CHARLES FINDLATER, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent, &c.—THE parish may be considered as about 11 miles in length, and about 2 miles in the average breadth, in whole, probably, 11000 or 12000 acres.

A chief part of the low land lies in a vale, which is bounded towards the south-east by a range of hills, called *Kellyheads*, running parallel to the range of the Pentland hills. This vale is bounded on the opposite side by a low hilly ridge, passing under different names, such as *Dodhead* and *Broomyleas*. In the bottom of this vale there is a moss, called Hallmyre bog, of about 60 acres, along the middle of which a very deep and wide ditch was cut down to a gravelly bottom, full of springs, by the late William Gordon, Esq. of Hallmyre, into which the bog has been drained by cross-drains, and is now all good arable land. With the interruption of Lyne water, which cuts it nearly at right angles, this vale continues, bounded by lesser hills, or rather a swelling ridge, along the public road till you arrive at the bridge over the Terth, which water forms the boundary of the parish with that of Kirkurd and of Stobo.

The vale of the Lyne is bounded on the one side by the Kellyheads range above-mentioned, taking various names, and interrupted only by the small burn, called *Flemington-mill burn*, and the still smaller ones of *Stevenson burn*, and *Hagen-hope burn*, all falling from the east into Lyne vale, which last forms the boundary with the parish of Lyne. This vale is bounded on the other side of the Lyne water by gently rising acclivities, which on their opposite side descend to the water of Terth before-mentioned, as the boundary with the parishes of Kirkurd and Stobo.

Besides these vales, the parish extends over the tops of the range of the Kellyheads, and down their opposite sides to Fle-

mington-mill burn and its tributaries, where the parish is bounded by that of Eddlestone.

Hydrography.—The only waters of any importance in the parish are the Lyne and the Terth, and next to them Flemington-mill burn. These are frequented only for trout fishing. There is an artificial pond of about fourteen acres at Whim, and another perhaps about half as large at Magbiehill; they contain trout, eels, and perch. The new proprietor of Lamancha is also forming some fish-ponds.

Mineralogy.—The rock in the range of the Kellyheads is whin, which is rarely to be found in solid beds, but is divided by fissures in all directions. It contains veins of pretty rich ironstone; and there are many chalybeate springs. In the east end of the parish, on the estates of Whim and Lamancha, the coal formation occurs, composed of limestone, slate, white sandstone, and common black bituminous coal. None of these are now wrought for sale. On the adjoining estate of Magbiehill there is lime for sale; but the coal for burning it is brought from the neighbouring parish of Linton. Farther down in the vale, in the hill of Broomyleas, there is a quarry of excellent durable red sandstone or freestone, which supplies all the county.

Zoology.—Under this head may be noticed the brown, or Russian, or Norwegian rat, which a good many years ago invaded Tweeddale, to the total extermination of the former black rat inhabitants. Their first appearance was in the minister's glebe at Selkirk, about the year 1776 or 1777, where they were found burrowing in the earth, a propensity which occasioned considerable alarm, lest they should undermine houses. They seemed to follow the courses of waters and rivulets, and, passing from Selkirk, they were next heard of in the mill of Traquair; from thence following up the Tweed, they appeared in the mills of Peebles; then entering by Lyne water, they arrived at Flemington-mill, in this parish; and coming up the Lyne they reached this neighbourhood about the year 1791 or 1792.

Within thirty or forty years the brown squirrel has found its way hither from Dalkeith.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Eminent Persons.—Of remarkable persons born in the parish, I can only state Sir Robert Murray Keith of Hallmyre, who was ambassador at Copenhagen, and saved the life of the queen in the affair of Count Struensee; and Sir Basil, his brother, who died in

Jamaica, governor of that island; to whom may be added the late Lord Chief Baron Montgomery, who was one of the first sheriffs of royal nomination, after the abolition of the heritable jurisdictions, and the first Scotchman who attained to the dignity of Lord Chief Baron.*

Land-owners.—The proprietors, reckoning from the easter end of the parish, are Sir James Montgomery of Stanhope, proprietor of Whim, non-resident, but whose house, with some parks, is occupied by his brother Archibald Montgomery, Esq.; William F. Mackenzie, Esq. of Portmore, proprietor of Easter and Wester Deans-houses, non-resident; James M'Intosh, Esq. proprietor of Lamancha, resident; the Rev. Mr Berrisford of Magbiehill, occasionally resident; Henry Veitch, Esq. of Ellick, proprietor of Bogend, non-resident; the family of the late William Gordon, Esq. of Hallmyre, non-resident; Adam Kennedy, Esq. of Romanno, resident; the Earl of Wemyss, proprietor of Whiteside, Fingland, Fleming-ton-mill, and Drochil, non-resident; Sir John Hay of Hayston, proprietor of Stevenson, non-resident; William Aitchison, Esq. of Drummore, proprietor of Boreland, non-resident, but occasionally visiting his farm; Sir Thomas Carmichael of Skirling, proprietor of Scotston, non-resident; James Aitken, Esq. of Callends, resident. There is none of these proprietors whose rental is not more than L. 100 a-year.

Antiquities.—As to the vestiges of antiquity remaining in the parish, there are circular circumvallations called rings on the tops of several hills, as on Callends hill, Whiteside hill, Boreland hill, and Penria hill.

Drochil Castle, situated in a commanding situation, in the angle made by the junction of Terth with Lyne water, is not very much dilapidated. Tradition ascribes the building to Regent Morton: The lintel of one window to the west has the Douglas arms upon it in relief.

Parochial Registers.—The old session record, beginning with a mutilated leaf of a minute in 1650, might probably be ranked among the antiquities of the parish. From that record it appears that an yearly sum was paid by the adjoining parishes to the Peebles magistrates for watching witches in Peebles prison,—to enforce confession, probably by the torture of preventing them from sleeping. From that record great alarm seems to have prevailed at the approach of Cromwell's army, (designed the *Sectarian Army*,) fast-

* Vide Account of Stobo.

days being frequently appointed to avert the impending calamity; and the Sabbath day itself was often set apart for that purpose. Intimations are given from the pulpit to the militia to meet at certain places of rendezvous, and thence to proceed to the Scotch army, wherever it may be at the time. After the defeat of the engagers under the Duke of Hamilton, I find that Sir Michael Na-smith in Drochil appeared before the kirk-session, and upon his knees confessed his conviction of the sinfulness and unlawfulness of the late engagement, whereupon he was again received into the So-lemn League and Covenant. During Cromwell's administration, the session seems to have kept remarkably quiet. After the Resto-ration, and during the persecution of the Covenanters, great anxiety seems manifested against any persons being received into the parish without sufficient testimonials, attesting, it may be presumed, that they did not attend conventicles: And great alarm is also expres-sed when a placard was found affixed to the church threatening re-taliation on the part of the persecuted. The session seems to have assumed great censorial powers, and informations were listened to and sought after in regard to the slightest irregularities, which were made matter of impeachment and judicial trial, with citation and examination of witnesses, so that discipline seems to have been strict in the parish. The session record is not now so voluminous; no record is kept of scandals, nor of marriages, nor deaths; and even that of births is not completely regular, there being no suffi-cient compulsitor to enforce registration.

III.—POPULATION.

In 1801, the population was	950	
1811, - -	1163	
1821, - -	1041	
1831, - -	1078	
Number of families in the parish,	- - - - -	205
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	- - - - -	109
in trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	- - - - -	38
of other families, - - - - -	- - - - -	58

There are 2 fatuous persons, and 1 deaf and dumb in the pa-rish.

During the last three years there have been six illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—

Land now or occasionally in tillage,	- -	3341 acres.
Never cultivated,	- -	7659
In undivided common,	- -	0
Under wood,	- -	337

With the aid of bone and oil-cake manure, none of the land need lie unimproved, excepting probably 500 acres of the apex of hills, inaccessible to the plough. But a great part of this is occasionally ploughed, cropt with oats, and then resigned for years to pasture.

I would observe in general, that, from the vicinity of the parish to Edinburgh, dairy farming is much in practice. The most productive mode of dairy farming here is to churn the whole milk, and to send both butter and butter-milk daily, or twice or thrice a-week to the capital. The next mode in point of profit which our farmers adopt is to churn only the cream, and convert the skimmed milk into cheese; sending the butter by weekly carriers to Edinburgh, and selling the cheese at the end of the season. At a greater distance, it is expedient to convert the whole of the milk into cheese.

Sown Grasses.—Fallow land, when sown out for hay, is sown with grass seeds at the rate of 8 lb. red clover, and $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels of annual rye-grass per imperial acre. If intended for pasture, at the rate of 4 lb. red, and 5 lb. of white clover, and the same quantity, $1\frac{1}{2}$ bushels, of perennial rye-grass. Where the soil is mossy, Timothy and rib-grasses are mixed with the clovers; in some few instances double the clover, with only two-thirds of the rye-grass above specified, are sown.

Live-Stock.—The stocking of a sheep-farm is the number of sheep that are smeared and kept through winter; whether lambs bought in the end of June or beginning of July, kept over winter and sold as hogs next June or July, or ewes, as a breeding-stock, whose lambs, excepting those retained to keep up the stock, together with the old discarded ewes are sold to the butcher, or the lambs sold to farms of the first description, part being kept to replace the breeders discarded, or part may be even retained upon the farm to be sold as hogs.

In this parish both old sheep and lambs are sold to the butcher, excepting the lambs retained to keep up the breeding-stock.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish may be as follows:

	Imperial acres.	Return per acre.	Total.	
Sown grass hay,	367,	125 stones,	45815 stones.	L. 1145 0 0
Watered meadow,	60,	200 do.	12000 do.	250 0 0
In fallow, gene- rally with turnip and potatoes,	509,	probably one-tenth may be deducted for bare fal- low previous to wheat.		

	Imperial acres.	Return per acre.	Total.			
In barley,	- 183,	6½ bolls,	1189 bolls.	L. 1070	0	0
In pease,	- 60,	5 do.	300 do	195	0	0
In oats,	- 1045,	5 do.	5225 do.	3135	0	0
In wheat,	- 36,	8 do.	288 do.	403	0	0
In potatoes and turnips	450 acres, say at L. 5 per acre,	-	-	2250	0	0
				L. 8448	0	0

Whilst a considerable quantity of sown grass hay is sold on account of vicinity to Edinburgh, it is replaced by nearly an equal quantity bought in from the west country.

There may be of barley sold,	800 bolls,	retained for seed,	140,	consumed	260
of pease,			60,	do.	240
of oats,	2260 do.	do.	965,	do.	2000
of wheat,	-	-	-	-	288

The wheat raised is all consumed; the seed bought in, as also flour occasionally. In general all grains for seed are brought from other parts of the country.

The stock kept in the parish, with the rent it is supposed capable to pay per head, is as under:

Black-faced breed,	1100	7 shillings per head.	Rent from them	L. 385	5	0
Cross of these with Cheviot	900	8 do.	do.	365	0	0
Cheviot,	- 1600	8 do.	do.	640	0	0
Leicester	- 400	16 do.	do.	320	0	0
Total,	4000			L. 1710	5	0

Of the Cheviot breed, 400 of the above, consisting of the old ewes and rams, may be kept on through winter and sold in spring, and these can only be estimated at 4s., hence deduct	-	-	80	0	0
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Remains L. 1630 5 0

The gross produce of the sheep pasture may be stated at - L. 2110 0 0

The sheep-pastures being fine, and enabling all to be sold fat to the butcher, the value of the sheep per head is above the average of the county.

Black-Cattle.—Yearly gross produce of cows.

The number of milk cows kept may be 340—the calves kept yearly 160, which at three months old may be valued at L. 2, - - L. 640 0 0

And there may be afterwards made of the cow in cheese and butter, L. 3, 10s. 1190 0 0

L. 1830 0 0

In some few instances where no calves are reared, there has been obtained from a cow to the value of L. 10. But upon an average L. 5, 10s. may be considered as the full value of the yearly produce of a cow, in calves, butter, and cheese. About 160 full aged black-cattle may be annually sold from the parish; part of them sold for the dairy in spring, and part fed off with turnip in autumn and winter, and sold to the butcher. The average value of these may be L. 9, 9s. a-head, - - - - - 1502 0 0

The total gross produce from cows L. 3332 0 0

Horses.—The total number of these may be 192; of this number 35 may be kept for the road or field. The number bred yearly may amount to 35, to supply those worn out.

Rate of Wages.—The number of ploughmen may be 51, with victuals in the house, or livery-meal and kitchen money yearly as wages L. 11, 11s. each; women-servants all victualled in the house, in summer, 91, L. 3, 15s. each; do. in winter, 68, L. 2; day-labourers at 1s. 6d. per day, 35; boys, 50, L. 3 each yearly.

Rent.—The whole rent of the parish, valuing what is farmed by proprietors, is L. 6300. The valued rent, Scots money, L. 4020, 10s. 1d.

Farm of Boreland.—As the improvements upon the farm of Boreland, the property of William Aitchison, Esq. of Drummorie, in the vicinity of my manse, have, in various respects, given a stimulus to improvement in this quarter, I judge it proper to give a general account of them.

The farm contains 372 acres, 30 acres of which Mr Aitchison, who purchased it in 1806, devoted to stripes and clumps of planting for shelter, and which is all in thriving condition. The surface on the north rises gradually from Longstruther burn into a long ridge of no great elevation, the soil of which is in general a black moorish soil, so light as to blow with the wind when pulverized into a tilth for turnip. This ridge declines into a plain, and then rises into a similar ridge, but of greater acclivity, which gathers in its middle to an eminence, crowned on its top with a small circular circumvallation, called Boreland Rings. This ridge descends rather more precipitously into the narrow glen of Callends burn. The soil of this plain ridge is a gravelly loam upon an open bottom. The whole is easily accessible to the plough, and has been all under plough culture, excepting some few spots converted into water meadow.

When purchased by Mr Aitchison it was in the possession of a back-going tenant, the remainder of whose lease he bought up, —the whole in the worst possible order.

The first surface improvement it underwent was liming the whole at the rate of 45 bolls of shells (or 18 one-horse cartfuls) per acre, so soon as it could be overtaken by fallowing. This liming seemed to have but little effect on the light soil of the northern ridge.

Much draining was required; and the first operation of this kind was performed upon a narrow stripe of land, consisting of 61 acres, lying along the end of the second mentioned ridge, from a little above the bridge over Lyne at the manse, to Callends burn, and bounded betwixt Lyne water and the road to Peebles. It was a moss soil at the outburst of the springs from the ridge, in which

the cattle of the former tenant used often to be bogged in searching for the early grass from the springs. Lying upon a bottom of *chattery* rock, no ditch could confine the water, and of course was not attempted. It was merely surface-drained by shaping it into high-crowned ridges by the spade; it was then limed from baskets carried by women, and sown out with grass-seeds, and has remained in grass ever since; a part of it being subsequently watered, though scantily, from Callends burn, hay is yearly cut from it at nearly 200 stones per acre. Three small springs have had two small portions assigned to them for watering,—the water of one of them being carried a part of the way to its destination in a timber conduit, supported upon tresses. But the most remarkable effect produced by irrigation was upon a field of a semifluid moss of five acres along Longstruther burn, over which sheep could not travel in the driest weather without risk of drowning. It was so deep that it would have required a ditch of great depth, and carried to great length, before reaching the level of its bottom. It was, therefore, surface-shaped for watered meadow, and the Longstruther burn turned over it; and, from being worth next to nothing, yields 200 stones of hay per acre, and can carry carts.

And here it may not be improper to state an experiment tried last year upon a small scale, and with such apparent success as has encouraged the repetition of it this season upon a larger. It is to raise turnips by grass fresh cut from the watered meadow, and deposited in the drills in the same way as dung. The grass in this year's experiment underwent no other process than merely being turned into the horse pond to get wetted that it might lie the more closely in the drill, to be the more easily covered by the plough. I inspected the field on the 4th September 1833, when the turnip from the grass and that from rape dust appeared equally vigorous in the shaw. Those on the same field from dung were rather fading in the shaw, but farther advanced in the bulb, owing, as I was told, from the earlier springing of the turnip from the dung. It might seemingly be of advantage to wet the grass, or, indeed, any kind of green stuff afforded by the farm, and to let it lie in heap for a few days till it gets heated, when turnip might spring from it as early as from dung. From the success of this experiment it would appear that manure might thus be obtained in every farm from any green stuff it produces. I inspected the same day the meadow whence the grass had been taken for manure. It was cutting green for house-feeding, and was pro-

bably as weighty as what had been cut for hay ten days or a fortnight before. Might not that which was stunted in growth in the cold months of spring shoot out more vigorously in being cut over so early?

But to return to the rest of the management. Mr Aitchison enlarged his tilth, and, by consequence, augmented his crop, and made a still farther enlargement of tilth by the conversion of its straw into manure,—in one instance by purchasing Edinburgh street dung, when it lay as a drug upon the hands of the magistrates, and subsequently by the foreign manures of rape and bone dust. And here it may be observed, that these two last-mentioned manures afford a prospect of improving our pastures on hills where merely the plough can operate; for as a ton weight per acre suffices to raise turnip, and as this could easily be carried on horses' backs, if sheep were flaked upon the turnip, the land would come to be in best order to be sown off with grasses, even where the expense of lime in addition might be inexpedient, although certainly to be desired.

To procure sufficiency of manure, is the great foundation of profitable farming. In the neighbourhood of great towns, it is advantageous to exchange the straw of the farm for the dung and fulzie of the town; but at a distance, excepting the easily transportable manures of bone or rape dust, the great dependence must be on the dung of the cattle and their litter. Mr Aitchison's plan is to consume his whole straw in litter, carrying off the litter and renewing it, so soon as it is merely so fouled by the dung as to make it ferment: to consume as much of the fodder in rearing young cattle, and to use the least possible for litter, which immediate profit suggests, he considers as almost equivalent to burning the straw to obtain the ashes for dung.

His dung manufacturers are, *first*, from twenty to thirty black cattle, bought in at Hallow-fair, which are kept through winter in a well-littered court, having open shades, and into which water is introduced, to which they have access *ad libitum*, upon turnip and meadow hay, and through the ensuing summer with cut grass from the water meadows or sown fields, and upon tares; when they are sold to the butcher in the end of autumn. Perhaps a dozen of swine are also fed in the cattle court.

The *next* engine for creating dung is a standing stock of breeding ewes, in number 105, of the new Leicester breed, remarkable for smallness of bone, weight of carcase, and heaviness of fleece. These are pastured in summer upon the parks on the ridge rising

from Longstruther burn, and lying from that burn to Noblehouse road, which have been resigned to pasture for several years; one of these parks in particular, formerly mostly covered with heath, was sown off for pasture, after having been for two successive seasons fallow green crops with dung, and the last turnip crop eaten on the field by the sheep; and when I inspected it on the 4th September 1833, it appeared equal to any Lothian park in closeness and fineness of sward. These ewes are fed through winter with turnip and hay, administered to them in open shades, with which every park is provided; a small quantity of green watered meadow grass being also allowed in spring, when the turnip are getting dry, to make the ewes more abundant in milk. The sheds are always kept plentifully littered. The proportion of lambs from the ewes, upon an average of years, is 141 from the 100. None are sold as lambs, but kept on through winter and the following summer, and, excepting what are retained to replace the discarded of the breeding stock, are sold, at from eighteen to twenty months old, to the butchers, who have uniformly declared that they have found no twenty month old sheep, even from the best parts of the country, equal to those from Boreland in fat and tallow. This may be accounted for from the uniform full feeding,—the abundance of shelter from planting and sheds,—and the waving nature of the surface, admitting free circulation of air, and preventing the molestation of flies, and thus may be overbalanced the disadvantages of an elevated situation and cold climate, which probably render vegetables less nutritious.

From his great command of manure, bred at home and abroad, Mr Aitchison can keep about 150 acres in constant tillage, in crops pretty much in the following assortment: From 12 to 20 acres in wheat; from 30 to 35 acres in barley; from 30 to 35 do. in oats; 30 to 35 do. grass sown with the preceding crop; 30 acres in turnips regularly; and the rest (including 30 acres under wood) in pasture. In the best seasons, a return has been known, per acre, of 14 bolls of wheat, 10 do. of oats, 8 of barley, old measure. Bare fallow is generally the preparation for wheat, but this season, (the tillage land being perfectly clean,) he intends sowing 21 acres after peas and tares; the tares, of about 8 acres, will be all cut and consumed in the court-yard, and dunged and sown with wheat this first week of September. The pease are being shorn just now, and the land will probably be dunged and sown the second week.

The average weight and price of his sheep, all sold by January 1833, is as under:

Ewes, average weight 131 lb.,	-	-	L. 1 15 0
Ewe hogs sold at eighteen months, 119 lb.,	-	-	1 13 0
Wether hogs, 135 lb.,	-	-	1 19 0
The average of wool, its price variable, say 2s. 3d,			
Average of ewes' fleece,	-	-	4½ lb.
Do. of hogs' do,	-	-	5½ do.
1 large tup gave	-	-	7½ do. which at 2s. 3d.
per lb. was worth 16s. for his wool.			

He estimates the average returns of his pasture at L. 1, 5s. per acre, his turnip at L. 6 per acre. From an accurate account of his liming, at first upon the fallow, and subsequently in top-dressing pastures with a compound of moss and lime, he has expended above 400 bolls of shells.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Ecclesiastical State.—The stipend consists partly of valued teind in money, and partly of meal and barley, averaging in whole about L. 250 a-year. The glebe is fourteen acres in extent.

The number of families attending the Established church is 42; families belonging to the dissenters, 20.

There is no record of the age of the church. The door-way at the west end in the front is arched semicircularly; the two windows and door in front at the west end are square and lintelled, and seem modern,—these two doors and windows are in the front,—and there was a large Gothic window in the east end, which has now been converted into a door to a gallery.

The present manse was built in 1740, and is still seemingly in good repair.

Education.—There is one parochial school; its situation not central. The teacher has the maximum salary, with L. 7, 7s. as heritors' and session-clerk. His fees may amount to about L. 13 a-year. There is another school at the eastern extremity of the parish, the teacher of which has a salary from the heritors of L. 8. There are no persons in the parish upwards of eight years of age unable to read.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—About 32 persons, regularly and occasionally, receive aid from these funds. The average annual amount of contributions for their relief is L. 110; of which L. 90 may be raised by assessment, and the rest from church collections.

Savings Banks.—There is one of these banks in this parish, in which the amount of deposits has hitherto varied from L. 800 to L. 1100.

April 1834.

PARISH OF EDDLESTONE.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. PATRICK ROBERTSON, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent and Boundaries.—THE parish of Eddlestone is 10 miles in length from north to south, and 7 from east to west. Its greatest breadth is at the southern extremity, and it gradually contracts as it approaches the north, where its breadth does not exceed two miles. It is bounded on the north and north-east by the parishes of Pennycuik and Temple, on the south-east by the parish of Innerleithen, on the south and south-west by the parishes of Peebles and Lyne, and on the west by Newlands.

Topographical Appearances, &c.—The hills in general are of a very tame description, being smooth, and for the most part green to their summits. The highest is Dundroich, or the Druid's hill, which is 2100 feet above the level of the sea, and from which in a clear day can be seen the Cheviot hills, with part of Teviotdale, Annandale, Clydesdale, Perthshire, Fifeshire; the Firth of Forth, the city of Edinburgh, and the counties of East, West, and Mid-Lothian.

At the base of this hill, there is a lake two miles in circumference, abounding with pike, eels, and perch. This lake gives rise to the water of South Esk, which empties itself into the sea at Musselburgh.

The climate is dry and bracing,—the easterly fogs seldom reach the southern extremity of the parish, and there are no distempers peculiar to the district.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Land-owners.—Mr Mackenzie of Portmore is the principal land-owner, being proprietor of more than half the parish. Lord Elibank is patron, and second heritor; Lord Cringletie is third.

Parochial Registers.—A parochial register of births and baptisms, marriages and deaths, has been regularly kept since 26th December 1725. It is worthy of remark, that this register at first seems to have been kept solely for ecclesiastical purposes, the baptisms only being recorded, and not the births, from the year 1725 till

1780. Since that time, both the births and baptisms have been regularly recorded, in so far as this was practicable. But there is reason to fear that several have been deterred from entering their children's names in the record, by the small registration fee of 6d. to the clerk. This fee has lately been abolished, and the good effects of it are already beginning to appear; in one instance a whole family having been registered at the same time, who, but for this trifling circumstance, in all probability, would never have been recorded.

Antiquities.—There are no remains of antiquity in the parish except the ruins of three ancient camps. From their circular form it is probable they are Danish. One of them is still very entire upon the farm of Norshield; the late Colin Mackenzie, Esq. of Portmore, with that good taste for which he was distinguished, having preserved it with great care in the centre of his plantations. The other two, upon the farms of Milkiestone and Wormiston, have of late years been much defaced, in consequence of the stones having been applied to the purpose of building march dikes.

In the year 1794, a pot containing a great quantity of gold and silver coins was dug up in the court-yard of the farm of Kingside. The silver was in a state of great decay, and crumbled into powder on being removed. The gold was more entire. The exact quantity found could never be correctly ascertained, as various fingers had been in the pot before it was delivered over to the Lord Chief Baron, the late Sir James Montgomery. After retaining possession of it for a considerable time, and probably not thinking it worth while to report it to the Exchequer, he gave part of it to the finder and to the poor of the parish, and distributed a few pieces as curiosities among his friends. Several of these coins, it is believed, are now in the possession of Sir James Montgomery, and Mr Mackenzie, the proprietor. The tenant of Kingside has two of them, one bearing the inscription *Jacobus S. Scotorum Rex*, but the date is effaced; the other is apparently a foreign coin, but the inscription is altogether illegible.

Towards the northern extremity of this farm, a barrow or tumulus, inclosed by three circular walls, was opened in the year 1828 by the farmer for the sake of the stones; and in the centre of the inner circle was discovered a rude stone coffin, containing the ashes of human bones that had obviously been subjected to the action of fire. Combustion had not been so complete but that several of the processes remained entire; in particular those of the temporal bone. Beside the coffin were found a variety of brazen weapons, somewhat resembling hatchets. An account of this discovery, with a drawing

of the ground, and two of the weapons, was sent at the time by Mr Mackenzie to the Antiquarian Society in Edinburgh. He retained two of the weapons, and gave the remainder to the tenant who made the discovery. Whether these weapons were used in war or in the chase is for the antiquary to determine.

It is worthy of remark, that the farm of Kingside, or more properly the King's Seat, where these remains were found, was a hunting station of King James the Sixth.

III.—POPULATION.

The ancient state of the population was very similar to what it is at present, viz. purely agricultural and pastoral. The manners no doubt were more simple and primitive. Most of the farms were occupied by two tenants, who cultivated the land in alternate ridges; and it is said that disputes as to the one encroaching upon the property of the other were very rare. Were such a mode of cultivation in existence now, it would lead to interminable feuds. Till after the middle of the last century the universal practice was for the farmer and his family to sit in the kitchen and mess at the same board with their servants. The moral influence of this practice, and the kindly feelings which it engendered, are now no more. The line of demarcation between master and servant is now more distinctly drawn, and it is believed that not one instance of this practice now exists in the parish. A small landed proprietor, who was alive within these fifteen years, was among the last to give it up. Until the period of his second marriage, when he was far advanced in life, he rigidly adhered to the good old practice of his forefathers; but at length he consented to take a cup of tea at breakfast with his wife in the parlour, upon condition that he should first have his pint bicker of porridge as usual with his servants in the kitchen; and this practice he continued till within a few years of his death.

In 1811 the population was	-	918
1821,	-	810
1831,	-	836

Of these 190 reside in the village.

1. Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	144
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	80
chiefly employed in trade, manufactures, or handicraft,	-	-	-	29
2. Number of unmarried men, bachelors or widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,	-	-	-	14
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,	-	-	-	27
3. The average number of births yearly, for the last 7 years,	-	-	-	14
of deaths,	-	-	-	9
of marriages,*	-	-	-	7½

* During the last seven years 53 couples have been proclaimed, but as it frequently happens that only one of the parties is resident in the parish, proclamation of banns is consequently made in two parishes. No accurate general conclusions, therefore, can be drawn as to the number of marriages that take place in Scotland from an inspection of the parochial registers.

4. The number of persons at present under 15 years of age,	-	-	311
upwards of 70,	-	-	22

There are no nobility or persons of independent fortune residing in the parish. There are 9 proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards, all of whom are non-resident.

Number of inhabited houses, 144. Of houses now building, 3.

Language, Habits, &c. of the People.—The language generally spoken is a corrupt Scotch, with a barbarous admixture of English. A few only of the oldest of the people speak the Scottish dialect in its purity. These, however, are rapidly disappearing, and in a few years more in all probability there will not be one person alive who could have held converse with his grandfather without the aid of a dictionary.

Those who are in the prime of life, and in full employment, generally kill a sheep about Martinmas, and a pig of their own rearing. This is all the butcher-meat that is consumed in the family of a married ploughman, or respectable labourer, during the year; and with this frugal fare they are contented and happy, and enjoy good health. In several families tea is substituted for porridge and milk at breakfast, and it is to be regretted that this pernicious habit is gradually gaining ground. Wherever it is habitually indulged in a peasant's family, poverty and wretchedness are its invariable attendants, and the necessaries of life cannot be procured in sufficient abundance to support the general health. It is a luxury above the means of a labouring man, and it is doubtful whether it be not a more productive source of poverty, misery, and vice than the unrestrained use of ardent spirits. Our legislators would do well to consider this; and as they cannot change the habits of the people, to lower the duty on tea and sugar, so as to bring them within the compass of every industrious peasant's means.

Poaching in game and the salmon fisheries prevails to such an extent, that the game is in danger of being extirpated; and of the salmon that come into the river to spawn few are permitted to return again to the sea.

There has been no smuggling in the parish since the change in the distillery laws; and pawnbroking was never known in it.

During the last three years, there have been four illegitimate births in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

Number of acres, standard imperial measure, in the parish,	-	-	21,250
acres which are either cultivated, or occasionally in tillage,	-	-	4,379
which never have been cultivated, and which remain constantly in waste or in pasture,	-	-	15,830

Number of acres that might with a profitable application of capital be added to the cultivated land of the parish, whether that land were afterwards to be kept in occasional tillage, or in permanent pasture,	1,190
under wood, the greater part of which has been planted within the last 30 years,	1,050

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land per acre in the parish is L. 1, 15s. for in-field, and 12s. 6d. for out-field land. The average rent of grazing is L. 5 for a milk cow; L. 3 for a full-grown ox or heifer; 5s. for a black-faced sheep; and 6s. for a Cheviot sheep, pastured for the year.

Rate of Wages.—Ploughmen fit for every kind of farm-work receive L. 12 per annum, with victuals. If married, they have generally, in addition to their wages, a free house, a milk cow, the usual allowance of meal, half a boll of potatoes planted, and their fuel driven gratis. These allowances, together with their wages, may be fairly estimated at L. 25 per annum. Female-servants receive L. 6 a-year; and masons and carpenters 15s. per week.

Improvements.—Much has been done with respect to reclaiming waste land, draining, irrigation, and embanking upon all the farms that have been let within the last twenty years. Almost every spot capable of irrigation has been irrigated, and wet land has been made dry. The general agriculture of the parish, however, has been greatly retarded, in consequence of one-half of the parish having been let by the late Earl of Portmore upon fifty-seven years leases. The farmers sitting at easy rents contented themselves with cultivating the dry and most productive spots, and left the rest in a state of nature. These leases expire at Whitsunday next, when great improvements may be expected to take place. There are no enclosures in this part of the parish, and the farm-buildings are in a state of great decay. The steadings in the other parts of the parish are most complete and comfortable. Most of the farms are enclosed with ring fences, and several of them are completely subdivided. This practice it is probable will soon become universal, as the opinion is becoming very general that our land has been so long under the plough that it cannot be much longer cultivated with advantage without being thrown into pasture for a few years. This, however, can only be done by means of enclosures. One large farm, the property of Lord Cringletie, is now managed in this way. It is completely subdivided. The tenant pastures it with sheep for three years after every rotation, and the increase of produce is very great. The general duration of leases is nineteen years.

Average gross amount of raw produce raised in the parish :

Produce of grain of all kinds, whether cultivated for food of man or the domestic animals,	L. 5,225	0	0
Of potatoes, turnips, beet, and other plants cultivated in the fields for food,	1,252	0	0
Of hay, whether meadow or cultivated,	965	0	0
Of land in pasture, rating it at L. 6 per milk cow, and L. 3, 10s. per full-grown ox or heifer grazed for the season, and at 8s. per ewe, or full-grown sheep pastured for the year,	5,376	0	0
Of gardens and orchards,	300	0	0
Of the annual thinning and periodical felling of woods and plantations,	200	0	0
Of young horses reared for stock or sale,	275	0	0
Of miscellaneous produce, not enumerated under any of the foregoing heads,	100	0	0
Total yearly value of raw produce raised,	L. 13,693	0	0
Rental of the parish,	6,364	0	0

Live-Stock.—Black-faced sheep 2960, Cheviot do. 2520, total, 5480. Milk cows 274, young cattle 440; horses for farm labour 110, do. for harness and saddle, 16; young horses reared for stock or sale, 55.

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Market-town and Means of Communication.—Peebles is the nearest market-town, and is four miles from the village of Eddlestone. There is a post-office in the village, and a daily post to and from Edinburgh and Peebles. The length of the turnpike roads in the parish is twenty-one miles, and a public coach from Peebles to Edinburgh passes through the parish daily.

Ecclesiastical State.—The parish church is the only place of worship in the parish. It is situated two miles from the southern extremity of the parish, and eight from the northern. More than one-half of the population reside within a mile and a-half of it. The greater part of those at the northern extremity either go to the neighbouring church at Pennycuik, or to the dissenting meeting-houses at Howgate and Bridge-end.

The church was rebuilt in 1829, and contains accommodation for 420 persons. Each heritor has a portion of the area allotted to him in proportion to his valued rent, which he subdivides among his tenants. The space occupied by the communion table is free to all, and affords accommodation for 36 persons.

The manse was built about fifty years ago. The late incumbent received only L. 160 from the heritors, which was the estimated expense for repairing the old manse. Out of his own funds, with the addition of this sum, he built entirely the present manse and offices. A large addition was lately made to the manse by the present incumbent at his own expense, amounting to L. 380. The extent of the glebe is 28 imperial acres, and may be estimated at the yearly value of L. 30 Sterling. The stipend awarded by the Court of Teinds in 1823 was 15 chalders of victual, half meal, half

barley, exclusive of L. 8, 6s. 8d. for furnishing communion elements. But as part of the teinds were surrendered, the stipend, as allocated, and now payable to the incumbent, stands thus :

Surrendered money teind,	-	-	-	-	L. 96	0	6
10 chalders, 5 bolls, 3 pecks, $1\frac{4}{10}$ lip. of grain, at L. 13, 12s. per chalder,					140	5	0
					L. 236	5	6
Deduct for communion elements,	-				8	6	8
					L. 227	18	10

Number of persons attending the Established church 736 ; of those who attend chapels of Seceders and Dissenters, 100.

Divine service at the Established church is well attended, those at a considerable distance being in general most regular. The average number of communicants at the Established church is 212, and the average amount of church collections yearly for the support of the poor of the parish is L. 22 ; for religious and other charitable purposes, L. 5.

It is a singular fact in the ecclesiastical history of the parish, that the present incumbent and his forefathers have been ministers of Eddlestone for 137 years. James Robertson, the present incumbent's great-grandfather, was ordained minister of Eddlestone in 1697, and served the cure for fifty years. He died in 1747, and was succeeded by his son, Alexander, who had been his ordained assistant and successor for a number of years. After his death in 1772, he was succeeded by his son, Dr Patrick Robertson, who performed all the clerical duties of the parish for the space of fifty years. He died in the month of May 1822, and was succeeded by his son, the present incumbent, who had been ordained his assistant and successor in 1819. There is reason to believe that this is the only instance in the history of the Church of Scotland, of four individuals of the same family, in uninterrupted succession from father to son, serving the cure of the same parish.

Such a connection is of a more than ordinarily hallowed nature, and tends to unite more closely the pastor and his flock in the bonds of mutual love and affection. And to a rightly constituted and virtuous mind, it must be a matter of pleasing and interesting reflection, to consider that many of those who now wait upon the ministry of the present incumbent, are the descendants of the very men who, 137 years ago, listened in the same place to the pastoral admonitions of his great-grandfather.

Education.—The parochial school is the only school in the parish. The branches generally taught in it are English reading, writing, and arithmetic, Latin, Greek, French, and mathematics. The

schoolmaster has the maximum salary, amounting to L. 34, 4s. 4½d., and the school fees from the children of the parish amount to L. 42 per annum. The actual emoluments of the schoolmaster, however, are very great, as there is a large boarding establishment attached to the parish school, and the number of boys attending it from various parts of the kingdom average in general from 30 to 40.*

The school fees are 2s. per quarter for English reading; 3s. for reading and writing; and 3s. 6d. when arithmetic is conjoined. The fees for the other branches are at the discretion of the teacher. The people in general are alive to the benefits of education; and there is not one person in the parish between six and fifteen years of age who cannot read and write.

The northern extremity of the parish is too remote to admit of the children attending the parish school. A private school was kept there for several years, and was attended by about thirty children; but as there was no salary to the teacher, the emoluments from the school fees were so small, that it has lately been given up. An additional school might be established with great advantage near the northern extremity either of this or the adjoining parish of Newlands, which would afford all the additional accommodation that is required for both parishes, without materially diminishing the numbers attending the parochial schools.

Charitable and other Institutions.—There are none in the parish. Almost all the men, however, are members of some of the neighbouring friendly societies, from which much benefit and comfort are derived in sickness and old age, and a spirit of independence excited and maintained. There was a saving bank established at the time they were first introduced into Scotland. It was continued for five or six years with very considerable success. The servant-girls drew from it, when about to be married, upon an average, L. 10. At length it was considered expedient to transfer the deposits to the neighbouring bank at Peebles. A considerable prejudice at first existed in the minds of the people against these banks. Many were of opinion that they were established from a desire on the part of their masters to ascertain how much they could save, and that ultimately there would be an attempt made to

* The expediency of such an appendage to a parochial school is very doubtful. Before the boarding system commenced, the number of children belonging to the parish attending the school amounted to 100; but as the number of boarders increased, the number of the parish children gradually diminished, till now they do not exceed 70, although the population of the parish is as great as formerly. The people have an idea, although probably there is no just foundation for it, that their children must be neglected for that part of the establishment which is so much more productive. The consequence of this impression, however erroneous, is, that the children are neither sent so young, nor continued so long at school as formerly.

reduce their wages by that amount. This illiberal suspicion has long since died away. The investments for the most part are made by farm-servants at the terms of Whitsunday and Martinmas. The most numerous class of contributors are the servant-girls.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—Average number of persons receiving parochial aid, 15. Average sum allotted to each person per annum, L. 4. Annual amount of contributions for their relief, L. 64: of this sum, L. 22 are procured from church collections; L. 9 from interest of money; and the remainder by assessment upon the heritors and tenants, in equal proportions.

A poors' rate was established in the parish in 1752, and has continued ever since. The heritors and kirk-session meet twice a-year, and fix the aliment for each pauper for the ensuing half-year. The clerk is instructed to draw the stent to the amount required, and the minister and kirk-session have a discretionary power to the extent of one-half of the weekly collections, to meet any contingencies that may occur.

There is still a strong aversion on the part of the poor to apply for parochial aid. During the last ten years, not one direct application for aid has been made by the party requiring relief. Many of them would rather die of want, than acknowledge their poverty and ask the benefit of the funds.

Fairs.—There is a fair held annually in the village on the 25th September. It was formerly a great cattle-market. The only business now transacted is the hiring of farm-servants for the winter half-year.

Inns, Alehouses, &c.—There is only one alehouse in the parish, the demoralizing effects of which are rapidly increasing. Twenty years ago, almost the only thing called for was a bottle of small-beer; but since the late reduction in the duty on spirits, a great change has taken place in the habits of the people. Whisky, harsh and undiluted, is now the favourite, and almost the only, beverage; and drunkenness is rapidly extending among a class of men who formerly were habitually sober, viz. farm-servants and labourers. A marked improvement, however, has taken place in the habits of the tenantry and the better classes of society; and the deep drinking that was so prevalent among them forty years ago, is now of very rare occurrence.

Fuel.—The only fuel which the parish contains is peats, which the peasantry manufacture for themselves. Coals are procured at a moderate expense from the adjoining pits of Mid-Lothian.

April 1834.

PARISH OF LINTON.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ALEXANDER FORRESTER, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Name and Boundaries.—LINTON no doubt derives its name from Lyne, one of the tributary streams of Tweed, rising out of that high ground which separates the county from Mid-Lothian on the north, and is a continuation of the Pentland range. In former times, it appears to have been written Lyneton and Lynton. There is a parish of the same name in the county of Roxburgh. There is also a considerable village so called, in the county of East-Lothian and parish of Prestonkirk; and there are several parishes in England of the name of Linton.

It is bounded on the east by Pennycuik; on the south by Newlands, and Kirkurd; on the west by Dolphinton and Dunsyre; and on the north by West-Calder, Mid-Calder, and Kirknewton. It is distant sixteen miles from Edinburgh, and is understood to contain about twenty-five square miles.

Meteorology—Climate.—Situated 600 feet above the level of the sea, the climate may be considered moist, and more subject to boisterous weather than regions of less elevation. It is, however, healthy, and not subject to any particular distemper. In common with districts of the same elevation, it is subject to autumnal frosts. At the same time, it must be remarked, that of late years, this peculiarity of our atmosphere has been greatly corrected by the draining of our marshy low lying grounds, and it is hoped, as this improvement goes on, that in future this part of the country will be less subject to this evil.

Mineralogy.—The rocks in this parish are chiefly those of the coal and porphyry formations. Coal and limestone have been long wrought at Carlops. At present there is also a regular sale of coal both at Harlamuir and Coalyburn at 10d. per load, which is two cwt. Lime is also sold at Whitfield; the price is 1s. 6d. per boll, and 20,000 bolls have been disposed of in a season. At Deepsykehead there is a good freestone quarry. In several other

places freestone is also to be got in the parish, and at Badensgill, limestone of an excellent quality has lately been discovered.

The hill of Leadlaw, in the immediate vicinity of the village of Linton, would indicate it to be possessed, or supposed to be possessed, of the mineral after which it is named. Accordingly, attempts have been made, at different periods, in search of lead on this hill. The last attempt was made only a few years ago; but on both occasions the attempts were unsuccessful. It would also appear, that, in the neighbourhood of the lead workings, search had been made for silver, and the ground in various places exhibits the appearance of the operations of the workmen, which to this day are known by the name of “the siller holes.”

Amongst the mineralogical productions of the parish, pebbles should not be omitted to be mentioned, which are often to be found of great beauty, and vying with the celebrated Cairngorum.

Soil.—The soil is various. Generally the sub-soil is sand or gravel with a mixture of moss, and is of more or less fertility. In the upper part of the parish the land is interspersed with heath, and considerable tracks of moss of various depths and quality. In the lower district of the parish, there is much excellent land, producing good crops, and well adapted to the turnip husbandry. There the soil is generally a sandy loam, with an intermixture of clay and moss.

Hydrography.—On the farm of south Slipperfield, there is a loch or sheet of water, of about a mile and a-half in circumference, and of considerable depth, frequented during summer, by flocks of water-fowl, abounding in pike and perch, and resorted to in winter by those who delight in curling. This sheet of water is nearly in the centre of an extensive track of ground, consisting of upwards of 2000 acres in a state of nature. It is almost entirely covered with heath, and presents every variety of moor and moss. On this moor various important improvements are carrying on.

Besides the Lyne traversing the parish from north to south, there are the Esk and the Medwin, both arising out of the same range of hills to the north,—the former being the eastern, and the latter the western boundary of the parish; as a proof of the height of that part of the country, whilst the main branch of the Medwin winds its course to Clyde, a stream goes off from it at Garvaldfoot, and finds its way to Tweed. The parish everywhere abounds in excellent springs of water. None of them are medicinal, excepting one at Rutherford, which goes by the name of “Heaven aqua.” Who gave it that name, or first discovered its virtues, is not known. Situated formerly so as to be extremely difficult of access, the new

turnpike road now passes in its immediate vicinity, and a coach travels daily between Edinburgh and Dumfries close by the well, where an elegant inn, with the best accommodation, may be got by those resorting to it. Scientific analysis ascribes to it the qualities of Tunbridge.

Botany.—The botanist will find, on the track of 2000 acres before-mentioned, a beautiful variety of the *Primula farinosa*, which it is said is rarely to be found in this country.

Although situated in the immediate vicinity of the Forest of Ettrick, there are no remains in the parish of the natural wood which at a remote period unquestionably covered it to a great extent, as appears from the remains of various kinds of timber which are still constantly dug up in the making of peats,—specimens being found in a state almost approaching to petrification. The first attempt to supply the decay of the natural wood in this parish seems to have been made in compliance with the statutes of James II., III., and IV., which enacted, “that trees should be planted;” and there were lately, about the old farm-steadings, a few straggling ashes and elms, some of which are still to be seen, the result of these enactments. About a century ago, there still remained about Linton, *according to tradition*, a considerable deal of valuable timber about the yards and steadings, which a person, who had acquired about that time extensive property there, cut down, and thereby greatly indemnified himself of the price which he had paid, but without putting in a single plant in compensation of the desolation which he had wrought about the village. It was not till about the beginning of the present century, that any plantations were made in the parish deserving to be noticed under the head of modern improvements, excepting some wood at Garvaldfoot, which had been planted about fifty years before in hedge-rows, and also in clumps, a good deal of which was cut down several years ago.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—In the vicinity of Carlops, immediately opposite to Newhall house, on the southern bank of the Esk, there is a place called Harbour Craig, which is a freestone projecting rock over a deep hollow glen, formed by the precipitous banks of two streams which here empty themselves in the Esk. On this dreary and secluded spot, tradition states that the Covenanters sat down after their defeat at the battle of Pentland, and there found a temporary refuge in the fastness of this sequestered valley, which, perhaps, afterwards received the name which it still bears, from

the shelter which it gave to the fugitives on this occasion. On the rock there is still to be seen the initials of some of them, together with the date of the period when they took up their abode in this solitude, and for some time, undisturbed by their enemies, performed those religious services to which they were devoted, and cheerfully suffered “the loss of all things.”

In several places stone coffins have been found in the parish, and also cairns, about which tradition is silent. They have been dug up in a bank upon the Lyne in the Temple lands near Linton; and a Roman urn is stated to have been found in a cairn still remaining in Garvaldfoot moor. A few years ago, on a rising ground called Castlelaw, immediately above Linton on West Third, there stood a cairn where there was found a stone coffin rudely put together, the contents evidently showing the remains of bones, and, from the height to which the stones had been carried, plainly manifesting that the body of a person of no small consideration had been buried on the spot.*

III.—POPULATION.

The population remained nearly stationary for some years after the publication of the last Statistical Account in 1790. Since that period, it has increased by additional hands being employed in cotton weaving, agricultural improvements, and the formation of roads.

In 1801, the population was	1090	males 530	females 560
In 1811, - - -	1100	565	565
In 1821, - - -	1194	584	610
In 1831, - - -	1577 †	867	710
In 1832, - - -	1350	725	625

In the villages of Linton and Carlops, there are 572 inhabitants.

The number of families in the parish in 1831 was	-	-	-	297
chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	63
in trade, manufactures, and handicraft,	-	-	-	92

There are 22 heritors of this parish, having properties from L. 100 to L. 600 or L. 700 of land rent per annum, exclusive of lime, coal, and freestone. Two heritors reside in the parish. There are 32 tenants occupying the land, upon leases of nineteen years generally of endurance, and paying from L. 60 to L. 500 of rent, —besides some parks that are let to graziers for one year.

The usual variety of tradesmen is to be found in this parish. The collieries and quarries employ about fifty hands. At the time of the publication of the last Statistical Account, two or three looms are stated to have been employed in making cotton cloth for Edin-

* Some notices of minor antiquities will be found in the original MS.

† The increased population in 1831 arose from a new turnpike road being set agoing that year, and calling for an additional supply of labour.

burgh and Glasgow. There are at present in the parish 83 looms employed in that manufacture. Two dozen looms were also stated to be employed in customary or household manufacture. There are at present only two looms in Linton, and three in Carlops employed in that trade. There are 5 tailors, 4 dress-makers, 2 butchers, 5 carriers, 9 retailers of meal, groceries, and spirits, 2 surgeons, 4 innkeepers, in the parish.

Of illegitimate births there are generally about three yearly in the parish.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.

The number of acres cultivated, or occasionally in tillage, is	-	4,000
Uncultivated,*	-	19,500
Capable of being cultivated with a profitable application of capital,	-	1,500
In undivided common, Linton Green,	-	2
Under wood,	-	400

In the last Statistical Report, the number of sheep kept in the parish was stated to be, “by a rough computation, *about ten thousand.*” The number at present is 9640; the decrease being 360. In explanation of this, it is to be observed, that in 1790 there were no Cheviot sheep in the parish, whereas at present, in the number now stated, there are of the Cheviot breed 3660; and, wherever that sheep is introduced, a smaller number is kept. There is, besides, a good deal of land that was formerly stocked with sheep now under the plough, or pastured with cattle; and the importance of light stocking is now better understood.

Husbandry.—The management of both the Cheviot and black-faced breeds is the same. The lambs are sold in the Edinburgh market, the best, however, being reserved for keeping up the stock, in supplying those sold off in the end of the season, or to be kept on turnips. If retained and kept all winter, they are sold off as hogs at Linton June market. The practice of feeding the old cast-off ewes upon turnips had just commenced at the time of the last Report, and is now universally practised. Various mixtures are now used as substitutes for tar in smearing, which is much disused. The chief ingredient employed at present is train-oil and cocoa-nut oil. Ewe-milk cheese is very little made in this parish, the attention of the farmer being at present directed mainly to the carcase, to which milking is unfavourable.

There is nothing particular in the cattle and corn-farming to be remarked which is not in general practice. It may, however, just

* Much of this uncultivated land is fine sheep pasture, which it would not be advisable to break up from its elevated and inaccessible situation.

be observed, that the parish is not surpassed by any in the county, either in regard to the mode of management adopted, or in the spirit with which it is conducted. All the modern improvements are here to be found; and fewer of the old modes which the new school of husbandry has exploded are retained than in most parishes of the district. Threshing-machines have long been in very general use in every farm of any extent, and the in-field and out-field system has long been given up.

Milk-cows are the cattle mostly kept, and their produce finds a ready market in Edinburgh. There are also kept on several of the farms Highland cattle bought at Falkirk and Hallow Fair, which are kept in winter, and either sold off in the spring, or put to pasture, to be fed for the butcher on the farm. The milk-cows are nearer the Ayrshire breed than any other. The Teeswater are also kept, and crosses of these kinds are the general stock of the parish.

Live-Stock.—The number both of horses and cattle is considerably increased, from a circumstance already stated. The number stated in the last Report was 460 cattle, and 130 horses. There are now 772 cattle,—which explains the smaller number of sheep kept at present than in 1790. The present number of horses is 176.

Rate of Wages.—Of late, wages have rather declined from their former rates. This season wages have been from L. 10 to L. 13 for men, with victuals. Women-servants were hired at Linton spring market on March 29, 1833, from L. 3 to L. 4, and upwards, for the summer half-year. Last summer labourers received, without victuals, from 9s. to 10s. weekly. Cotton-weavers at one period gained as high as 14s. per week. At present they hardly earn above 5s. during that period.

Produce.—The average gross amount and value of raw produce yearly raised in the parish, is

4000 quarters of oats, which at present prices may be estimated at in pounds Sterling,	-	-	-	-	-	L. 3,200	0	0
200 acres in turnip, which, being employed in rearing as well as fattening sheep and cattle, is given to milk cows, the value cannot be estimated.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
100 acres in potatoes, valued at L. 7 on an average per acre,	-	-	-	-	-	700	0	0
93,000 stones of rye-grass hay at 5d. per stone,	-	-	-	-	-	1937	10	0
36,800 of meadow do. at 3d per stone,	-	-	-	-	-	460	10	0
Mines, minerals, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	2,000	0	0
330 milk cows at L. 5 per annum, in milk, &c.	-	-	-	-	-	1,650	0	0
The other cattle, 130 sold off either reared, fattened, or sold off to fatten, gross average, L. 8, 10s. each,	-	-	-	-	-	1,105	0	0
3660 Cheviot sheep, 6s. 6d. each,	-	-	-	-	-	1,189	10	0
5980 black-faced, 5s. 6d. each,	-	-	-	-	-	1,644	10	0
Average gross produce,						L. 14,000	0	0

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Markets.—From time immemorial sheepmarkets have been held at Linton, and of late one market is held on the last Tuesday of June. The sheep produced are principally one year old or *hogs*, as they are called, and come from all the surrounding counties. * They were brought in former times to be sent to the Highlands; but of late, for the most part, they are sent to Fife, Perth, Angus-shire, Lammermuir, and the English fairs. Earl Wemyss, as superior, draws a custom of 1s. 1d. per score at this market. Of late years the store-masters have established a market here on the Friday before the first Monday of April and on the Friday before the 25th of September, chiefly for the disposal of stock and hiring servants,—which promises to be a great convenience to the district. In the month of August a show of stock is held here, and the breeds produced are allowed to be creditable to the district. In the winter months a ploughing match is held, and four prizes are given to the best workmen, which is found to be attended with good effects in exciting emulation, both in regard to their particular occupation, and in keeping their horses in good plight, as well as their various utensils and furniture.

Villages.—Linton is situated nearly in the centre of the parish. It consists of 90 houses, and contains 395 inhabitants,—160 males, and 235 females. It is irregularly built, and, from several of the houses having their gables to the street, has some appearance of antiquity. One of the houses of this description tradition states to have been contemporary with Drochil Castle 1578, or as it is written, Droich holes in ancient deeds. This house, now belonging to Sir John Hay, it is understood, was built by the same tradesmen who were employed about the castle, and who, being allowed Saturday to themselves, occupied their time in building this house, which has been inhabited ever since; whilst the massy stately fortress of Regent Morton was never either inhabited or finished. A medical gentleman of much experience, and resident here for some years, authorizes me to state, “That he has found the village to be peculiarly healthy, not having observed for several years any thing almost in the shape of disease, excepting influenza and scarlatina. This healthy state

* For some years, one market has been held on the last Tuesday of June, where the whole business of the season is settled. The Highlands now being fully stocked, the sheep are sent as above-stated. To understand the statement in regard to our markets, it is necessary to observe, that formerly there were four markets: two in the last week of June and first week of July, and two in the second and third weeks of July in succession.

of the people he ascribes to the situation of the village upon the banks of the Lyne, whose course, through a glen-like concavity, keeps up an incessant current of air, keen, bracing, and invigorating, and thus counteracts the ordinary causes of pestilential distemper; whilst, at the same time, a fine exposure to the south, and a double range of hills to the north, affords considerable shelter during the greatest inclemency of the season."

Formerly six families occupied the site of the village of Carlops, now consisting of 36 houses, and containing 177 inhabitants. They are mostly cotton-weavers.

Means of Communication.—The old road from Edinburgh being very ill directed, the approach to the village, both from the west and the east, was extremely difficult for a carriage of any description; but by a new line lately made and opened last year, various dangerous acclivities were avoided, and, bringing into view the village, which was formerly quite hid from the traveller, it has already been considerably improved in its appearance by new houses being erected, whilst two inns also have been built on this road, one at Linton, and another at Rutherford, with post-horses and every accommodation which the public could wish. A new line of road from Carlops to Ingraston, to the south of the old road, was not long ago formed. The trustees of Lanarkshire and Mid-Lothian gave every encouragement to this undertaking, but the majority of those in the county of Peebles gave every opposition to it. At length, after much opposition and delay, an act of Parliament was obtained, authorizing the new line under the direction of Mr Jardine, civil-engineer, in which there is not a rise of more than one foot in thirty-seven; and six heritors of Linton undertook at their own risk, upon getting an assignation of the tolls, to make this road, which has been made accordingly, and was opened more than twelve months ago,—traversing the parish for six miles, and giving universal satisfaction to the public. There is perhaps no trust in the county at present whose revenue affords a better prospect of providing a fund at once for reducing the debt, and for keeping the roads under it in the best state of repair.

It may be added, that it would be of no small importance to the public that a road in continuation of that lately made to Badensgill, towards the Caldstone slap, should be executed, so as to open a proper communication with the other side of the hill, and to the north by Falkirk, Stirling, and Queensferry. It is obvious that such a measure appears to be equally beneficial to the other side of the slap, the county of Mid and West-Lothian open-

ing up to them a more ready and direct communication to the south. As nearly three miles of this road from Linton have already been made, it remains with the gentlemen to the north of the slap to show an equally favourable disposition to the undertaking, and they may be assured that they will be readily met by the heritors of Linton from the south.

Ecclesiastical State.—The church and manse were built in 1781. To the manse are attached the ordinary offices and a garden, with fourteen acres of arable land. The stipend consists of fifteen chalders, half barley and half meal, payable at the rate of the fiars of the county. When grain gives L. 1 per boll, it may be calculated at L. 240; at present it is below that sum.

There are two classes of dissenters in the parish. One of them, the United Secession church, has a meeting-house in Linton. The number of communicants belonging to it in this parish at present is 124, the rest of the congregation being made up from the six neighbouring parishes. The other sect of dissenters belong to the Relief, and have a meeting-house in the parish of Newlands, and fifty members belonging to Linton form part of that congregation. In this parish there are 300 communicants belonging to the Established church.

Education.—Mr Thomas Brown, a preacher of the gospel, is schoolmaster, with the maximum salary of L. 34 Sterling, and a house and garden. His terms of teaching are 2s. per quarter for English reading; and including writing, arithmetic, and Latin, are respectively 2s. 6d., 3s., and 5s. per quarter. The number of scholars during the winter quarters is about 100, and nearly the same in spring and during the rest of the year. The ordinary branches of education, with geography, are taught. Classical literature here is rather on the decline at present. L. 10 a-year, exclusive of wages of teaching, may be the amount of his other emoluments. A considerable part of the population being situated about three miles and upwards from the parish school, many of the children attend two private schools in the eastern part of the parish, and at Ninemileburn, in Penicuik; also at Dolphinton, Kirkurd, and at Lamancha, in the parish of Newlands. Two Sabbath evening schools are held at Linton and one at Carlops, where the Scriptures are read, and examinations of the children also are carried on. There are at present attending the Sabbath evening school of Linton about 70, and at Carlops, 40.

Library.—A parish library was begun about forty years ago, and consists of upwards of 500 volumes on history, travels, essays,

&c. &c. &c. It excludes all books on theological and political controversy.

Poor.—Certain it is that pauperism has been on the increase. No doubt this may be attributed to the late increase of the population, consisting chiefly as it does of the lower orders; and also to the greater liberality of the times, which pays more attention than formerly to the wants of the people, and which, on every occasion of the rise of the price of provisions, has led to measures which in other days would never have been looked upon as called for. Accordingly, whilst for ten years previous to 1782 the parochial expense did not exceed L. 20, and for the next ten years the annual sum amounted only to L. 25, it has since gradually risen to L. 100 and upwards annually, and last year it was L. 118, from which falls only to be deducted the allowances (L. 8, 14s.) made to the precentor and session-clerk, together with the dues of the beadle, presbytery, and synod clerks. For a good many years no heritor had a permanent residence within the parish,—an arrangement which may be presumed to have been hurtful to the parish both in regard to matters of police and in regard to the poor, who could not fail to be benefited by the residence of the wealthy. In the circumstances of the parish adverted to, and when none of the rents are returned to it in the encouragement of the industry of the inhabitants, it could not be expected that the church collections, together with the usual funds arising from the use of the mortcloth, the fee at the proclamation of banns, and the interest of L. 229 of mortified money, should be adequate to supply the wants of the poor, more especially during periods of peculiar pressure and exigency. Accordingly, it was proposed to the heritors, that they should enter into a voluntary subscription, in supplement of the above ordinary funds, and in proportion to their respective interests in the parish. This measure was heartily gone into, and the sum of L. 60 has been raised annually for the above purpose, and in times of peculiar distress this sum has been proportionally increased. In a parish like this, where there is a small proportion of resident heritors, whose duty and interest it is to give a helping hand to the poor, and a tenantry, all paying pretty tight rents, much occupied about their own proper business, and often necessarily absent from home, there seem to be insuperable difficulties in carrying into effect any measures similar to those recommended and practised with success by Dr Chalmers in the differently constituted parish of St John's.

Friendly Society, &c.—There is a friendly society in the parish; and there has been kept a savings bank at Newlands for several

years, to which the people of this parish have access ; and both institutions have been observed to be attended with great benefit to those who have had the good sense to avail themselves of the privileges which they confer.

MISCELLANEOUS OBSERVATIONS.

The great body of the people enjoy in a very considerable degree the conveniences and comforts of life. They are industrious and enterprising, as well as exemplary in the stations of life which they occupy. In former times the inhabitants who used animal food were in the practice of laying up about Martinmas such salted provisions of that article as would serve for the ensuing year. This mode is much discontinued, and beef, as well as lamb and mutton, being much more generally used than formerly, are obtained of excellent quality, at all times, from two butchers, carrying on their trade in Linton. Within the same period a considerable change has also taken place in regard to dress, as well as the mode of living. The reduced number of household or customer weavers in the parish, alluded to under a preceding article, is a sufficient proof, if any other were wanting, that hodden-gray "of the gudewife's spinning," together with some other manufacture of the same material, forms hardly any part of the attire either of our male or female population.

Although at the publication of the last Statistical Account the improved system of husbandry had commenced, it was not till some years afterwards that it was generally adopted. Among the most important improvements has been the draining, by Mr John Hume, of Linton bog, a morass of 100 acres, which has been brought under the plough. Various important operations were also set agoing by Mr Goldie and Mr Kerr in enclosing, planting, and draining on Leadlaw, Rutherford, and Broomlee, which have greatly improved, as well as ornamented, these properties, formerly in a state very unproductive ; and whilst a few straggling hogs were all that was to be seen, picking up what they could find on these wild moors, there have been grazing this summer stocks of excellent cattle and sheep ; while there are most extensive fields of turnip, on one of which, perhaps the largest and best of the parish, sheep was fed off, and the other crops of the rotation were going on. Mr Robertson, tenant in Broomlee, gained the highest prize for black-faced tups at the Highland Society's show of stock held at Stirling last autumn, and sold them on the same day at five guineas a-head. The rental of the parish, which was at the publication of last Statistical Account L. 2350, is at present, as taken up by three of the most intelligent tenants of this parish, L. 6560.

May 1834.

UNITED PARISHES OF LYNE AND MEGGET.

PRESBYTERY OF PEEBLES, SYNOD OF LOTHIAN AND TWEEDDALE.

THE REV. ALEXANDER AFFLECK, MINISTER.

I.—TOPOGRAPHY AND NATURAL HISTORY.

Extent, Boundaries, Name.—THE parish of Lyne is between three and four miles in length, and about three in breadth. It is bounded on the west by Newlands; on the north by Eddleston; on the east by Peebles, and on the south by Stobo. The name is of uncertain origin. By some it has been supposed to arise from *lina*, a Gaelic word signifying water, as the largest stream which enters the Tweed within the county skirts the parish through its whole extent, from the western to the eastern extremity of it.

Topographical Appearances.—Lyne, in the greater portion of it, has a southern exposure sloping from the summits of the hills towards the rivulet by which it is separated from the parish of Stobo. The arable ground in some places is nearly level, but in general it has a declivity; and, by declining southward, it obtains the full benefit of the solar rays, while it is sheltered from the piercing winds of the north. Most of the soil is of a gravelly description, and in ordinary years, when rain is not deficient, the crops are good. The hills are covered with wholesome pasture for sheep, affording that variety of heath and grass which is by many accounted so desirable. They are of inconsiderable height, stretching in a range parallel to the water of Lyne; but about a mile from the eastern limit of the parish, they suddenly recede to a greater distance from it, leaving an ample intervening space well adapted for cultivation. The rocks, which seldom appear above the surface, are what is termed in the district whinstone, commonly, however, inclining to slate.

The rivulet is of considerable magnitude; it rises near the confines of Tweeddale and West Lothian; and, taking an easterly direction, it runs through the parishes of Linton and Newlands, and a little below the parish of Lyne is united with the Tweed, after a course of about twelve or thirteen miles.

Whatever may have been the state of Lyne in former times, it is at present almost divested of trees, belts of which would be a great improvement, as they would not only be ornamental but advantageous, tending to diminish the violence with which the wind frequently blows from the west and the east.

The parish is certainly not insalubrious, and there is no prevailing disease among the inhabitants which might be supposed to arise from some local peculiarity.

Megget, which is situate at the southern extremity of Peeblesshire, and which at one time seems to have been named Rodonno, is distant from Lyne about fourteen miles, with the river Tweed and the parish of Manner intervening between them. It is above six miles in length, and in some places more than five in breadth. It is bounded on the east by Yarrow; on the south by Ettrick and Mofat; on the west by Tweedsmuir; and on the north by Manner. It is almost entirely covered with hills, which extend in two parallel ranges from west to east, having between them a narrow valley, which scarcely in any part exceeds a quarter of a mile in breadth. In this valley the soil is extremely various, but the greater portion of it seems to be very unsuitable for agriculture. There are parts, however, especially near the farm-houses of Cramilt and Henderland, where it is of a much better description, and where crops are obtained not inferior to many in lower situations. Through this level ground runs Megget water, which rises about the western limit of the parish, and though its course is short, it soon becomes a considerable stream by the accessions which it obtains in its progress; and at the eastern boundary it is received by St Mary's loch, a large and beautiful expanse of water, which yearly attracts a number of persons who are eager to behold so pleasing an object, and to enjoy the amusement of angling. On the hills, which occupy most part of the parish, there is a diversity of soil. There are places where it is shallow and dry, but commonly it is deep and wet, and it affords excellent pasture, which produces superior sheep.*

Megget is in one of the most elevated districts in the south of Scotland, and some of the hills rise from their base to a considerable height: there is consequently some degree of damp and cold in the climate, but this is not such as to impair the health of the inhabitants.

* Some ancient historians mention that gold had been found in a stream that runs down Glengaber into Megget water, and traces of the labour employed in searching for it are still discernible, but it does not appear that any has been discovered in modern times.

II.—CIVIL HISTORY.

Antiquities.—As Megget approaches the confines of England and Scotland, it may be supposed that when the two kingdoms were governed by different sovereigns, its inhabitants would experience the disturbance, and be distinguished by the character and habits, which were then so prevalent among the borderers. There are in it the remains of two old towers, which were probably designed for security and for defence against hostile aggressions, and also as watch towers, from which signals might be perceived and given when unexpected incursions were made.—At Henderland there are the vestiges of a chapel and burying-ground, and a tombstone of Cockburn of Henderland, a noted freebooter, with an inscription which is still legible.—About a quarter of a mile west from Lyne church is a Roman camp, which, notwithstanding the time that has elapsed since its formation, and the operations to which it has been exposed, still presents a very distinct appearance. Its situation indicates the military prudence which characterized the conquerors of the world. A road leading to it is still visible. Its interior has often been subjected to culture, and Roman coins are said to have frequently been discovered in it; but what these were, or whither they were conveyed, it would now be difficult to ascertain.

The church at Lyne is a solid and ancient edifice. It can scarcely be doubted that it had been built before the Reformation of religion in Scotland. On an oaken seat the year 1644 is marked. The pulpit, which is of the same material, seems to be of a similar age. About thirty years ago a chapel was built in Megget for public worship, with an apartment in it designed for a school-room.

Land-owners.—The land-owners, none of whom reside in the parish, are, the Earl of Wemyss, Mr William Murray of Henderland, and Mr William Purdie, proprietor of Lyne Town Head.

Parochial Registers.—A register was begun in January 1649, in which were concisely stated the acts of the session, purposes of marriage, baptisms, weekly collections and disbursements for the poor. But there have been at times long blanks in the record, or large portions of it must have been lost. In the course of time it seems to have been almost confined to receipts and expenditure in behalf of the indigent. But for a number of years past this register has been more carefully and regularly kept. There has hitherto been no register of deaths, and that of births is not quite complete, as some parents, especially dissenters, often neglect to record in it.

III.—POPULATION.

The population of Lyne and Megget appears to have been much greater in former times than at present. In the year 1755, it amounted to 265, and probably it was then considerably less than it had previously been.

In 1792, it was	152	71 males.	81 females.
1801,	167	67	100
1811,	196	95	101
1821,	176	87	89
1831,	156	83	73

The decrease of the population appears to have been chiefly occasioned by the junction of farms, by the absence of several classes of tradesmen who formerly were in the parish, and by the increasing number in Megget of non-resident tenants. The parish record shows that for a series of years two marriages, and three, often four, births, have annually occurred. The population is entirely rural. About the end of 1833 there were in the parish 159 persons, males 83, females 76. Of these there were,

Below 15 years,	-	63
Between 15 and 30,	-	53
Between 30 and 50,	-	27
Between 50 and 70,	-	16

Number of families in the parish,	-	-	-	-	26
of families chiefly employed in agriculture,	-	-	-	-	23
				in trade and manufactures, or handicraft,	5
Number of unmarried men, bachelors and widowers, upwards of 50 years of age,					4
of unmarried women, including widows, upwards of 45,					3

There is no individual of independent fortune residing in the parish. There are three proprietors of land of the yearly value of L. 50 and upwards.

There is no person in this parish who is insane, or fatuous, or blind, or deaf, or dumb, or deformed.

Character of the People.—The inhabitants of the parish certainly enjoy in a reasonable degree the advantages and comforts of social life, and no symptom of discontentment with their condition is perceptible. They are reflecting and intelligent. They have a taste for knowledge and for reading; and, what is of much greater importance at a time when scepticism and a disposition to remove needful restraints are very prevalent, they show a becoming regard to religion and morality.

IV.—INDUSTRY.

Agriculture and Rural Economy.—All the males in the parish who have arrived at a suitable age, with the exception of five artisans, are engaged in rural affairs.

It is calculated that above 700 Scotch acres are either under cultivation, or are occasionally ploughed, and that probably more than 11,000 acres are always kept in pasture for sheep. It is not easy

to determine whether capital might be used with advantage for the extension of agriculture, especially in Megget, where the distance from lime and from any additional manure that might be required is so very great. It is likely, however, that 50 or 60 acres might be added to the cultivated land with a reasonable expectation of profit. About 20 acres in separate places have been lately planted with the usual varieties of wood. These plantations exhibit proofs of the good taste and public spirit of the proprietors.

Rent of Land.—The average rent of arable land is L. 1 per acre, or rather more. The rent of grazing is estimated at L. 3 for an ox or cow, and 5s. for a ewe or full-grown sheep; but in some high situations, where storms in winter may be very injurious, it is a little less, about 4s. 9d.

Rate of Wages.—The wages of male farm-servants are from L. 10 to L. 13 per annum; of female from L. 6 to L. 7, with victuals and lodging. Male-servants who are married, instead of food and accommodation in the house of their masters, have a free house for themselves and families, six and a-half bolls of oatmeal, pasture for a cow in summer, and fodder in winter, ground for planting half a boll of potatoes, and coal or peat brought for their use, all which, with the payment in money, may amount to L. 24 or L. 25 per annum. Shepherds, as a remuneration for their labour, have pasture for 40 or 45 sheep, with food and lodging in the house of their masters. If married, they have, like those who are employed in agriculture, a separate habitation, the same quantity of oatmeal, six bolls and a-half, pasture and fodder for a cow, commonly a piece of ground for potatoes, and the conveyance of fuel, which, with the produce of their sheep, may be estimated at above L. 30 Sterling per year. But the amount of their wages is very uncertain, varying with the seasons and the state of the markets. Masons and carpenters have from 15s. to 18s. per week, without victuals; and slaters from 18s. to L. 1. Day-labourers receive 2s. and upwards per day, in summer, and from 1s. 8d. to 1s. 10d. in winter.

Breeds of Live-Stock.—The cattle are generally a mixture of the Ayrshire and short-horned breeds. One-half of the sheep are black-faced; the other half are Cheviot, or a mixture of these.

Husbandry.—The farmers are men of capital, intelligence, and enterprise. They are very attentive to their flocks and their herds, and skilful in the management of them. They readily use any expedient for melioration which experience has proved to be efficacious. They consider the nature of the land which they occu-

py, and select the breed, or intermixture of breeds, that seems to be best adapted to it. They are connected with local Associations that are formed for the purpose of encouraging exertion, by conferring premiums on successful competitors. The husbandry which prevails in the parish is that which is most approved in the district. Fallowing, liming, raising of turnips, and artificial grass engage a suitable degree of attention. Draining is practised wherever it is deemed requisite. Several pieces of waste land have been reclaimed. Embankments in various places have been constructed along the sides of the rivulets to prevent the injury which might be occasioned by inundations. No hay or straw is disposed of by sale; all is consumed in the parish. Indeed hay from artificial grass is seldom produced. Fields sown with the seeds of clover and rye-grass are commonly pastured. And, on the whole, agricultural operations seem to be conducted in that judicious manner which renders the ground most productive to the farmer, and most valuable to the proprietor.

The fences which form the enclosures appear to be in a sufficient state. The farm-houses are good and commodious, well-fitted for the accommodation of respectable tenants. The Earl of Wemyss has lately caused to be erected in Megget six substantial houses for shepherds, built of stone and lime, and neatly covered with excellent slates, which give an improved appearance to that part of the parish. Leases generally are for a period of 19 years. Previous to the death of the late Duke of Queensberry, and for some time subsequent to that event, the doubts which were entertained concerning the legality of leases which he had given had an unfavourable influence on agriculture. But when a decision had been finally given in the House of Lords, which ended the litigation, and new leases had been obtained from the Earl of Wemyss and March, increased exertions were soon perceptible. No symptom of deficiency of capital can be discerned. The farmers are active and enterprising, and withhold no expense which is needful in their operations. The proprietors facilitate their efforts by affording every convenience and means of success which can reasonably be desired.—There are very few hedges in the parish, but stone fences in a suitable state are numerous. These have been lately extended over most of the arable land, forming a range of convenient enclosures.

Produce.—The produce of the parish is extremely fluctuating: and it is not easy to state an average amount. The following calculation relates to the present period, and cannot be far from the truth:

Wheat, 150 bolls,	-	-	-	-	L. 180	0	0
Barley, 322 bolls,	-	-	-	-	322	0	0
Oats, 846 bolls,	-	-	-	-	550	0	0
Pease, 50 bolls,	-	-	-	-	38	0	0
Potatoes, 360 bolls,	-	-	-	-	90	0	0
Turnips, 35 acres,	-	-	-	-	140	0	0
Natural hay, 9000 stones,	-	-	-	-	112	0	0
140 cattle, at L. 4 per head,	-	-	-	-	560	0	0
9000 sheep, the produce of which, arising from lamb and fleece, may be estimated at 10s. per head, *	-	-	-	-	4550	0	0
Yearly value of produce,					L. 6542	0	9

V.—PAROCHIAL ECONOMY.

Means of Communication.—There are four miles of turnpike roads in the parish. Carriers pass weekly through Lyne, conveying merchandise between Hawick and Glasgow. For some years during the summer a coach has passed daily between Glasgow and Kelso, but in the winter it has hitherto been discontinued. There are two bridges over the stream that separates Lyne from Stobo, and one over the water of Megget, all of which are in good condition.

Ecclesiastical State.—The situation of the parish church in Lyne is as eligible as any that could have been selected. It is scarcely more than a mile from any of the inhabited houses which are placed around it. The precise period when it was built is now unknown, but it exhibits evident proofs of antiquity, and probably several centuries have elapsed since its erection. About forty years ago, on the occasion of a repair, as the population had greatly decreased, its length in the inside was diminished by a partition wall which was constructed, and was designed to bound the space intended for seats. It still, however, affords accommodation for about 80 persons, and at ordinary times 20 more might avail themselves of the communion table. In 1830 it underwent a repair, chiefly in the flooring and seats, and the windows also were neatly supplied with glass suited to their antique form. All the seats are free to those by whom they are occupied.

In 1829 a new and commodious manse was built. It is obvious, therefore, that the heritors have manifested no disinclination to the cause of religion, and no repugnance to supply the means of supporting it. The chapel in Megget, erected about thirty years ago for the convenience of public worship, with an apartment in it designed for a school, was built, not at the expense of the heritors, but with

* The price of sheep, lambs, and wool rose greatly during 1833, and may have surpassed the estimate which has now been given, but it should be remembered that previously it must often have been below it, and, if there be an excess, it is doubtful whether it would be more than sufficient to counterbalance the effects of disease and casualties which yearly occur.

money otherwise obtained, combined with the aid of the resident farmers, who assisted in collecting materials for so useful an edifice.

Mr Mitchelson, who was minister of Lyne above a century ago, bequeathed to the parish a sum of L. 50 Sterling, the interest of which was designed for the promotion of literary and religious knowledge among the parishioners. This interest was given to the schoolmaster before the establishment of a legal salary, and has always been employed in accordance with the will of the benevolent donor.

The stipend is L. 149, 5s. 9d., with L. 4, 3s. 4d. for communion elements. The glebe is about fifteen Scotch acres, but in a considerable part of it the soil is inferior, and it was augmented to its present extent in the time of the preceding incumbent, who received an increase of glebe in exchange for a servitude or right of pasturage on the lands of Lyne.

There are 18 families that attend the Established church, and 8 that are connected with dissenters. Of the latter, 2 are adherents of the Cameronians; 2 of the Seceders; and 4 of the Relief body. Both the members of the Established church, and those who belong to other denominations, show a becoming regard to public worship and religious instruction. The dissenters have no place of meeting in the parish, and almost the half of them are so extremely distant from congregations with which they are connected, that they have very few opportunities of hearing preachers of their own persuasion. About 50 communicate in the parish, and some who are prevented by requisite attention to flocks and houses, attend in the neighbouring parishes at their sacramental occasions.

The people take an interest in the diffusion of religious knowledge, and in the removal or alleviation of human suffering; but as the parish is extremely small, and as the one-half of it is at a considerable distance from the other, it is customary for individuals to co-operate with the societies which exist in the more populous parishes that are contiguous to them.

Education.—There are two schools in the parish,—one at Lyne, and another at Megget. The parochial school is at Lyne. The salary is the minimum,—L. 25, 13s. 3½d. The school fees are, for English reading, 2s.; for reading and writing, 2s. 6d.: and for reading, writing, and arithmetic, 3s. 6d. per quarter. They may amount to upwards of L. 12 annually; and the teacher's other emoluments may amount to L. 2, 10s. a-year. Reading and spelling, English grammar, writing, and arithmetic, are taught. The Bible is used. The national catechism, psalms, and paraphrases, are

committed to memory; and means are employed for giving the children a juster notion of the meaning of words, that the treasures contained in books may be more profitable to them. The teacher has the legal accommodations, excepting the garden, which is not of the required extent; but this is compensated by an annual sum of L. 2, paid by the heritors. The school in Megget, on account of the state of the roads,—the numerous streams which intersect them,—and the usual severity of the weather, is not kept during the winter. A teacher is engaged, who begins his labours about Whitsunday, and continues them till Martinmas following. The heritors have allowed L. 7 yearly for the support of the school. The parents of the scholars furnish the teacher in succession with board and lodging. The instruction given is the same in every particular as that which is afforded in the school of Lyne. There is probably not an individual in the whole parish ten years of age, certainly none fifteen years old, who is unable to read, and few, if any, who are not able both to read and to write.

There is neither circulating library, nor friendly society, nor saving bank, in the parish; but individuals avail themselves of those that exist in other places. Generally, the more permanent servants in the parish, remote from the dissipation of towns, and characterized by frugality and diligence, amass sums, which they deposit in the common banks of the country.

Poor and Parochial Funds.—For a long period of time, there have been no poor who were permanently supported by the parish, but individuals and families in protracted affliction have often received temporary aid, and for such occasional assistance, the collections in the church have as yet been sufficient, though, as the parish is small and divided, and without any resident heritor, these are necessarily of small amount. The average yearly amount of church collections is L. 2, 6s. There is a general disposition to avoid, if possible, dependence on parochial aid: and for several years there have been no poor in the parish.

Inns, &c.—There is neither inn nor alehouse, nor place of any description where ardent spirits are sold.

Fuel.—As the distance from other kinds of fuel is great, peat alone is used in Megget. It is mostly obtained on the hills, and it requires a considerable expense of time and labour. Coal is solely employed in Lyne. It is brought from Mid-Lothian and the northern limits of the parish of Newlands. Its costs about 17s. per ton, with a little more or less, according to the difference of quality or distance.

June 1834.

GENERAL OBSERVATIONS ON THE COUNTY OF PEEBLES.

BY THE REV. JOHN ELLIOT,
MINISTER OF PEEBLES.

THIS county is sometimes termed the county of Peebles from its capital, and sometimes Tweeddale from the Tweed, which runs through the whole district. It lies between $55^{\circ} 24'$ and $55^{\circ} 50'$ north latitude, and from $2^{\circ} 45'$ to $3^{\circ} 23'$ longitude west from London. Its extreme length, from north to south, is about 30 miles, and its greatest breadth, from east to west, is about 22. It is bounded on the north by the county of Mid-Lothian; on the south, by Selkirk and Dumfries; on the east, by Selkirk and Mid-Lothian; and on the west by Lanark. By some it is computed to contain 338 square miles, or 216,320 English acres. According to Armstrong, in his Companion to the Map, who says that he made an actual survey with a chain, it contains 251,320 English acres. Mr Findlater allows a smaller number of acres to a square mile than Armstrong, and gives 229,779 acres.

General Appearances.—Tweeddale may be considered the most elevated county in the south of Scotland, as only a very small part of it on the banks of the Tweed where it enters Selkirkshire is so low as between 400 and 500 feet above the level of the sea.* The highest range of mountains is that which forms the southern boundary, commencing at the eastern extremity of Traquair parish, and extending to the borders of Lanarkshire. Along the summit of these mountains runs the boundary line, from each side of which descend streams which flow into seas on the opposite sides of the island. A great part of this mountain range presents a dismal and forbidding aspect, where a shepherd's cottage is almost the only habitation to be seen. Even the names of places graphically describe their character and inhospitable appearance, such as *Dead for cauld* in Megget parish. A lofty ridge of mountains separates the parishes of Innerleithen and Eddlestone from Mid-Lothian on the east; and on the north, the Water of Leith, the Medwin, a tributary of the Clyde, and the Lyne, a tributary of the Tweed, all have their sources in the Pentland Hills, the boundary in that quarter. Like most mountainous counties, the boundaries are ill-defined, particularly towards the south-east, where Selkirk makes several in-

* It is almost every where bounded by lofty mountains or high grounds.

dentations, and where some land lies of which it is difficult to say whether it belongs to that county or to Peebles. A small part of the parishes of Innerleithen and of Peebles lies in Selkirkshire.*

Rivers.—The only river is the Tweed which, with three trifling exceptions, drains the whole county. None of its tributaries are dignified with the appellation of river,† but receive the name of *waters*, the next in degree. The streams that rise in the county and do not fall into the Tweed, are the Medwin, already mentioned, commencing in the parish of Linton, the North Esk, which rises in the same parish, and the South-Esk, which has its source in Eddestone parish; the last two streams afterwards unite and fall into the sea at Musselburgh. The course of the Tweed is north-east, till it reaches the parish of Peebles, when it takes an easterly direction. There is a circumstance well known to store-farmers and shepherds in this district, which I am not aware has ever been accounted for, but which is worthy of investigation. As long as the Tweed flows in a north-east direction, the hills on both sides of it are equally healthy for sheep pasture, and the disease called *sickness* is very little known. As soon as the river takes an *easterly* direction, the sheep on the right bank become subject to that disease, and also to what is termed the *louping-ill*, to an extent ten times greater than what takes place among those on the left bank, which has a southern exposure.

Ecclesiastical State.—All the parishes in this county belong to the Presbytery of Peebles, except Skirling and the united parishes of Broughton, Kilbucho and Glenholm, which belong to the Presbytery of Biggar. It is probably owing to this ecclesiastical arrangement that these last named parishes are often not recognized as belonging to the county of Peebles, but are transferred to Lanark. There is perhaps nothing more objectionable in our church economy than the *division* or *union* of parishes, in which it frequently happens that very little attention has been paid to the comfort either of the minister or his people. Thus a considerable part of Drummelzier lies on the west side of the Tweed, which, when flooded, prevents the inhabitants of that district from attending the parish church. When the parish of Dawick was suppressed in 1742, and added to Stobo and Drummelzier, the difficulty of crossing the Tweed to attend the church of Stobo never seems to have been considered.

* A great part of the parishes of Kirkurd, Linton and Newlands, may be considered table land, with an elevation between 600 and 850 feet. The pleasure grounds of Whim are exactly the same height as Arthur's Seat.

† The gradation in the names, is first a *syke*, for which there is no English word—then *burn*, *water*, *river*.

Why the parishes of Broughton, Kilbucho, and Glenholm were united it is difficult to conjecture. It was deemed expedient to continue a schoolmaster in each; it would probably have been as advisable to continue a minister in each of them also. If any union was to have taken place, it should have been the annexation of that part of Drummelzier which lies west of the Tweed to the parish of Glenholm. The parishes of Lyne and Megget are united ecclesiastically, though the whole of Manner lies between them. The distance from the manse of Lyne to the church of Megget is 14 or 15 miles, and when the Tweed is flooded, the minister must go round by Peebles, and he has thus upwards of 20 miles to travel. A great error was committed a few years ago by the Presbytery, which I the more readily point out, being then a member of that body. Instead of sanctioning the building of the manse at Lyne, they ought rather to have recommended that it should be placed at Megget, to which part of Ettrick and of the extensive parish of Yarrow might have been added, *quoad sacra*. Lyne, which consists of only two farms, might *quoad sacra* have been united to Stobo or Peebles. The Earl of Wemyss and March is sole proprietor of both parishes, with the exception of the property of Henderland and Lyne Town Head, and, from his Lordship's well known anxiety on all occasions to meet the wishes and consult the comfort of all his ministers, no difficulty whatever on his part would have been thrown in the way to prevent the above arrangements from being carried into effect.

Roads. Means of Communication.—The county is very well intersected by roads, except the parishes on the right bank of the Tweed; and though there is but a scanty population, and there never could be a great thoroughfare, it would be of great advantage to the inhabitants in that district to have a bridge across the river between the bridges of Peebles and Tweedsmuir, and a line of communication opened to the road from Selkirk to Moffat. The mail-coach from Edinburgh to Dumfries passes daily through the parishes of Newlands, Kirkurd, Broughton and Tweedsmuir, and a letter bag is forwarded from Leadburn Toll to Peebles and the adjoining districts. There is a daily coach between Peebles and Edinburgh, and during the summer season two coaches run, chiefly on account of the visitors to Innerleithen. For some years past a coach has run during the summer season between Glasgow and Kelso passing through Peebles. The tolls of the county are this year let for L. 2991, to which may be added L. 360 paid by the Post-Office for the mail-coach. *

* Since the account of the parish of Peebles was written, very considerable improvements have been made in the roads.

Agriculture.—A pretty general impression prevails that the plough has encroached too much on the sides of the hills, and that much land that is now arable would have been far more advantageously continued as sheep-pasture. The high price of wool and the low price of all kinds of grain will probably induce many of the farmers to sow out their upper grounds, and lay them down in grass. The importation of grain from Ireland has tended of late years to keep down the Peebles grain-market. Formerly, very considerable quantities were sent from this county to the Upper Ward of Lanarkshire, whereas that district is now supplied from Ireland. To counterbalance this depreciation of one kind of produce, steam navigation promises to keep up the price of lambs and fat sheep, which find a better market in London than in Edinburgh or Glasgow. The houses of almost all the farmers whose rental exceeds L. 50 are substantial buildings, affording comfortable residences for their families. The farmers are an intelligent, respectable class of men; sober in their habits and industrious in their calling. A bankruptcy among them is of very rare occurrence, and when it does take place it may be ascribed to some untoward circumstances over which the bankrupt had probably very little control.

Population.—From the annexed table it will be seen that between the years 1801 and 1811, there was an increase of population of 15 per cent. and this is easily explained. The scarcity of 1799 and 1800 made the farmers bring more land into tillage than had been under the plough before; more men were employed, and as high wages were given, they were enabled to marry and bring up families. This impulse ceased during the next ten years, and hence there was an increase of only one per cent. The increase of five per cent. in the last ten years was owing to the influx of strangers to make some new lines of roads.

From several of the preceding accounts it appears that there has been a considerable falling off in the population of certain parishes, and a general impression prevails that the county is not nearly so populous as it was some centuries ago. By writers on political economy the plausible question is asked, how was this alleged population supported, when agriculture was so imperfectly understood and practised? One very important consideration seems to have been forgotten when they maintain, that the population bears a proportion to the produce of the land, and it is this,—in

gress has been made in widening the bridge across the Tweed from 8, or rather $7\frac{1}{2}$, feet to 22 feet. According to contract, the work will be completed in October next, at the expense of upwards of L. 1000.

former times the produce was *consumed* on the land, now the greater part is *exported*. Tweeddale at present contains about 102,000 sheep, a very small number of which is consumed in the county or even in Scotland; almost the whole of the annual produce, such as lambs, *cast* ewes and wethers being sent to the south of England: whereas formerly neither sheep nor cattle ever crossed the English border, unless when a few were *lifted* in a marauding foray.

It has been said, “we have nothing of the pastorico-poetical *mania*, which would lead to the erection of cottages for idlers, for whose labour there is no demand, for the mere pleasure of exciting poetic ideas.”* It were much to be wished that this mania prevailed a little, not for the sake of poetry, but of humanity. Cottages, on the whole, are the nurseries of a sober industrious race of people; and it is surely only reasonable and consistent with humanity that the labourer should be as near as possible to the scene of his daily toil, instead of being obliged to walk several miles before he can begin his day’s work, and after bearing the toil and heat of the day to return the same distance in the evening. The hardship is still greater, if he be obliged to go to a remote part of the county, when he must leave his wife and family in some confined lane in the Burgh town, and, carrying his week’s provision with him, must take such accommodation as he can find. The bad effects of this cruel system of not affording the day labourer a cottage in the parish where he earns his subsistence, is severely felt in the county town, in which, as his domicile, he claims his parish settlement.

Peculiarities of the People.—The inhabitants of this county are not distinguished from their neighbours by any peculiarity, if we except their almost total want of a taste for music. A stranger would be inclined to suppose that a pastoral district must be the land of music and song, and yet this is not the case. Pennecuik says “musick is so great a stranger to their temper that you shall hardly light upon one amongst six that can distinguish one tune from another;” and the editor of Pennecuik, who wrote a hundred years afterwards, says “in confirmation of this general want, it has been remarked, that from a band of Tweeddale shearers a song is scarcely ever to be heard; that a ploughman seldom enlivens his horses by whistling a tune; and that, although the scenery is so purely pastoral, the sound of a pipe, or flute, or cow-horn, or stock in horn, or even of a Jew’s harp, is a rare occurrence in travelling through it.”

* Agricultural Survey of Tweeddale, p. 47.

Character of the People.—Pennecuik has also said when speaking of the inhabitants, “pity it is to see a clear complexion and lovely countenance appear with so much disadvantage through the foul disguise of smoke and dirt.” So far from this being the case now, they are distinguished by neatness and cleanliness both in their houses and persons. They may also be considered a well-fed and well-clad people. They have not, indeed, the high wages which in a prosperous state of commerce are earned in manufactures, but we nowhere see the squalid wretchedness and abject poverty which are found in manufacturing districts. With the exception of a few individuals in the burgh, and in perhaps one of the villages, no man would appear in public on the Sabbath in his every-day clothes. Throughout the whole county there is a very becoming regard to decency in dress on solemn occasions; some may call it extravagance, but no one who has carefully studied the character of the working-classes, and can feel an interest in their respectability and outward deportment, will ever censure this part of their expenditure. It will generally be found that the best clad, particularly among the young men, are the most sober and industrious, and least given to extravagance in any shape. I make these observations with the greater confidence, as my own parish contains considerably more than the fourth part of the population of the whole county; and when I see men who are earning their subsistence by the labour of six days of the week appearing on the seventh clad in good broad cloth, so far from blaming them I consider them entitled to commendation.

But there are higher qualities to which most of my brethren have borne testimony. The people may be considered a religious people, who are regular in attending Divine ordinances, and, with some exceptions, act up to their profession. Liberalism and infidelity have as yet made very little progress among us, and if seditious emissaries from other places do not come to poison the minds, and sap the better principles of the people, every one who wishes their happiness both in this world and the world to come, will rejoice to see them continue in the same course of life which they now lead.

Since the last Statistical Account was drawn up, the inhabitants, like their fellow countrymen, have shared in the prosperity and in the reverses of the country; have rejoiced in the former, and been submissive and resigned in the latter. To suggest any improvements by which they would be greatly benefited, I should consider

presumptuous; as an intelligent race of people, who fully understand their own interests, they might say *laissez nous faire*, when any wild and visionary schemes are proposed to innovate on their accustomed occupations and their peaceful habits.

The writer of these observations has drawn up the following tables, which contain chiefly a summary of the foregoing accounts, and holds himself responsible for their accuracy,—premising, 1st, That where Scots acres are given in the text, they have here been converted into imperial. 2d, That in stating the amount of raw produce, when the quantity of any article has been given, but not the value in money, a calculation has been made according to the market prices. 3d, That such particulars stated in the tables as are not found in text have been ascertained from the writers of the respective Accounts.

TABLE I.

PARISHES.	IMPERIAL ACRES.				Annual value of raw produce.	Valued rent Scots money.	Number of sheep.
	Cultivated, or occasionally cultivated.	Never cultivated.	Capable of being cultivated.	Under wood.			
Peebles,	3000	13710	60	1500	L.20997*	L.5136	8000
Innerleithen,	2400	25700	1500	530	14653	5537	16040
Traquair,	3000	14000		600	11250	5132	6900
Tweedsmuir,	375	41350		31	3231†	3962	16000
Drummelzier,	720	13200‡		411	4414	3133	6600
Broughton, Kilbucho, and Glenholm, }	5000	14000	1100	250	21231	5407	6000
Skirling,	2590	717	405	34	5614	1510	very few
Manner,	1630	14800	200	400	7422	3301	7400
Stobo,	1255	10000	711	587	5948	2874	5000
Kirkurd,	2206	2207	1620	600	5126	1108	2000
Newlands,	3341	7659		337	13890	4239	4000
Eddlestone,	4370	15830	1190	1050	13693	3928	5480
Linton,	4000	19500	1500	400	14000	3616	9640
Lyne, and Megget, }	875	13750	63	25	6542	3146	9000

* A mistake has been made at p. 15. The sheep in the account of the parish of Peebles are all of the Cheviot breed, and not partly of the black-faced kind, as I there stated. The following should have been the return :

357 stone of smeared white-faced wool, at 22s. per stone, L. 392 0 0

687½ stone of unsmeared do. at 32s. per stone, - 1100 0 0

L. 1492 0 0

As the annual value of sheep and wool is given, the *grazing*, amounting to L. 2000, ought not to have been inserted. It is now deducted from the amount of raw produce in the above column.

† In this sum, L. 2400, are given as the price of wool, but there is no return for sheep or lambs sold. The number of sheep in Tweedsmuir is nearly the same as in Innerleithen; and the amount of the raw produce for them in that parish is L. 6215.

‡ This number is not given in the text; but, as two acres are there allowed for one sheep, the above may be considered as the number of uncultivated acres. The same applies to Manner.

TABLE II.

PARISHES.	TAXATION.		POPULATION IN THE YEARS			
	Income in 1815.	Cess, &c. 1832-3	1801.	1811.	1821.	1831.
Peebles, -	L.6856	L.126 19 3	2088	2485	2701	2750
Burgh of do.	2399	249 18 4				
Innerleithen,	6022	127 15 6	542	635	662	746
Traquair,	5646	218 17 3	613	621	643	643
Tweedsmuir,	3840	34 4 6	277	254	265	288
Drummelzier,	4668	26 2 6	278	292	293	223
Broughton, }	1599	16 4 6	214	231	260	299
Kilbucho, and }	2040	43 8 3	242	322	328	353
Glenholm, }	2083	53 6 0	242	213	239	259
Skirling,	2199	9 15 6	308	310	345	358
Manner, -	3403	62 8 3	308	302	324	254
Stobo, -	2557	68 11 11	338	422	413	440
Kirkurd, -	1993	60 17 5	327	387	352	318
Newlands,	5339	172 8 0	950	1163	1041	1078
Eddlestone,	5645	133 6 4	677	918	810	836
Linton, -	5649	99 0 4	1064	1186	1194	1577
Lyne, and Megget	2244	17 17 3	167	194	176	156
	L.64182	1521 1 1	8735	9935	10046	10600

The amount of cess is - L. 1521 1 1

Add compounded taxes, - 270 0 0

Game licenses, - 119 0 0

L. 1910 1 1

N. B.—The above table is taken, so far as relates to the population and income, from the valuable work printed lately by order of the House of Commons. The return for the cess, &c. was obligingly furnished by the Collector for Peebles-shire, who is also Sheriff-clerk.

TABLE III.

Commitments to the County Gaol in the years 1832 and 1833.

1832. No. com.	By whom committed.	Crimes charged.	Punishment, or how disposed of.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Contempt of Sher-sub. order.	Three weeks imprisonment.
1.	Do.	Suspected of theft. .	
1.	Do.	Robbery or theft. .	Tried at Jedburgh. 7 yrs. transport.
3.	Do.	Stealing fences. .	Ten days imprisonment.
1.	Magistrate.	Contemptuous behaviour.	Ten days imprisonment.
1.	Do.	Stealing fruit. .	Dismissed the town.
2.	Sheriff-sub.	Assault. .	Fine L. 5 each, or sixty days imp.
3.	Justices.	Stealing a pair of boots.	Not proven.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Disorderly behaviour.	To keep the peace six months.
1.	Magistrate.	Do. .	Dismissed the town.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Assault. .	Tried at Jedburgh. 6 months imp.
1.	Do.	Theft. .	Thirty days imprisonment.
2.	Magistrate.	Rioting. .	Fine 15s. each.
2.	Do.	Do. .	Thirty days imprisonment each.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Vending forged notes.	Admitted to bail.
1833.			
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Child murder. .	Tried at Jedburgh. 9 months imp.
1.	Do.	Debt. .	
1.	Do.	Assault. .	Forty days imprisonment.
1.	Do.	Debt. .	
1.	Do.	Meditatio fugæ. .	
2.	Do.	Stealing nails. .	Sixty days imprisonment.

1.	Sheriff-sub.	Stealing nails.	Not proven.
1.	Do.	Debt.	
1.	Magistrate.	Disorderly behaviour.	Two days imprisonment.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Theft.	Thirty days imprisonment.
1.	Do.	Cutting down young trees.	Twenty days imprisonment.
3.	Do.	Stealing clothes.	Four days imprisonment each.
1.	Magistrate.	Breaking down young trees.	Fine 3s. and 2 days imprisonment.
1.	Justices.	Poaching.	Fine L. 3, 3s. or two months imp.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Assault.	Fine L. 1, 10s. and L. 1, 18s. expen.
1.	Do.	Child murder.	No proof.
1.	Magistrate.	Contempt of court.	Two days imprisonment.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Child murder.	Admitted to bail.
1.	Justices.	Poaching.	Fine L. 3, 3s.
1.	Sheriff-sub.	Theft.	Forty days imprisonment.
1.	Do.	Do.	Not proven.

A fuller detail might have been given of the commitments to prison, but on referring to the gaoler's book, I found so much uniformity, that a return for two years appeared quite sufficient. The commitments of vagrants for one night have been omitted, as they are frequently lodged in prison rather from humanity than from any desire to punish them. The more aggravated crimes are little known, and there has been only one execution for very many years, and I am not aware that the criminal was a native of Tweeddale. To the credit of the inhabitants of the four pastoral and agricultural counties of Peebles, Selkirk, Berwick, and Roxburgh, which form the southern circuit, it may be stated that no circuit furnishes a smaller criminal calendar.

TABLE IV.—*Ecclesiastical Estate.*

	Stipend.		Glebe.		Families attending Es- tab. church.	Communi- cants.	Dissenters.	
	Chalders oat-meal & barley.	Money	Acres.	Value.			Families.	Individuals.
Peebles, -	17 ³ / ₄	40	6 ¹ / ₂	L. 24	232	674		681†
Innerleithen, -	15	0	12	20		264	few	few
Traquair, -	17	0	12	20	81	200	22	127†
Tweedsmuir, -	11	60	11 ¹ / ₂	15	49	120		2
Drummelzier, -	11 ³ / ₄	0§	12 ³ / ₄	10	42	100		0
Broughton, }	14 ¹ / ₂	0	21	42	124	300	4	20
Glenholm, }	0	0	6	18				0
Kilbucho, }	0	0		6				0
Skirling, -	14	0	24	72	53	160	11	44
Manner, -	3	113	30	37	30	65		38
Stobo, -	0¶	150	21	31	76	154	9	34*•
Kirkurd, -	0††	150	19	30	50	160	7	27††
Newlands, -	15	0	14		42	250	20	
Eddlestone, -	10 ³ / ₄	96	28	30		212		100
Linton, -	15	0	14	20				174
Lyne & Megget, -	0	149	18 ³ / ₄	25	18	50	8	

• In equal quantities, calculated at highest fiar prices.

† 5 Roman Catholics, and 7 Episcopalians.

‡ And 30 Roman Catholics.

§ 10 bolls of oat-meal are allowed to the ministers of Drummelzier and Stobo as the rent of the glebe of a suppressed parish.

|| And 2 Rom. Catholics, 7 Episcop. ¶ Of this L. 12, 13s. are paid by Exchequer.

*• Allow 4 individ. to a family, the number of Dissent. families in Stobo will be 9.

†† Of this sum L. 80 are also paid by the Exchequer.

††† Allow 4 individ. to a family, the No. of dissent. families in Kirkurd will be 7.

TABLE V.—*Education—Poor.*

No. of Schools.	Average No. of scholars attending.	Parochial schoolmaster's emoluments.		Poor.							
		Salary.	Amount of fees.	Paupers.	Parochial expenditure	Collections at church.	Voluntary contribution	Assessment.	Money at interest.	Amount of interest.	Different sources.
Peebles, . . .	491	L. 38	L. 35 ⁺	48	L. 272 0	L. 62 0	L. 180		L. 700	L. 25 0	L. 10
Innerleithen, 1	100	34	40	13	101 0	21 0		80			
Traquair, . . 1	73	34	25	18	109 0	18 0	6	77		8 0	
Tweedsmuir, 1	33	32	12	1		10 0					
Drummelzier, 1	28	32	10	1	17 0	10 0					5
Broughton, } 1	60	32	20								
Glenholm, } 1	30	32	12	3	42 0	24 0	8	136		2 15	5
Kilbucho, } 1	50	32	15								
Skirling, . . 1	60	34	26	5	20 0	11 0					
Manner, . . 1	30	30	14	4	40 0	8 0	3		184	3 13	
Stobo, . . 1	45	32	11	10	65 0	12 0			545	21 0	
Kirkurd, . . 1	40	34	12	6	40 0	14 0					
Newlands, . . 2	170	34	13	32 [†]	119 0	20 0		90			
Eddlestone, . 1	70	34	42	15	64 0	22 0		33		9 0	
Linton, . . 1	100	34	35	25 [†]	118 0	24 0	60		229		
Lyne and } 1	27	25	12								
Megget, } 1	4 ⁺	7		none	2 5s.	2 6s.					

* These are the emoluments only of the teacher of the English school; the grammar school-master's are not here noticed.

† These two numbers include occasional as well as regular paupers.

‡ No returns.

N. B.—Under the head of parochial expenditure is included not only the support of the poor, but also the salaries of the session, presbytery, and synod clerks,—the beadle, and frequently the precentor. When the expenditure seems to exceed the annual income, it may be necessary to mention that the deficiency is made up, as in the parishes of Stobo, Kirkurd, and some others, by the liberality of the principal heritors, though no formal record is entered. In the parish of Manner, the deficiency is made up by drawing from the kirk-session funds lodged in the bank,—a very questionable mode of supporting the poor.

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